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CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE

Feb. 9

2000

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Engineering Students Get Early Start In Racing Career



PHOTO FROM UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

UCF engineering students, (from clockwise top left) Mark Adamson, Jonni McKenzie, and Jason Gass are briefed on the drill for changing tires by one of the Champion teams regular pit crew members.

ADAM SHIVER
STAFF WRITER

If you've ever dreamed of racing around a track in a one of the world's top rated sports cars or even working in the pits for one of today's hottest, then you might want to look into switching your major to Engineering.

UCF's SAE, or Society of Automotive Engineers, participat-

ed in the Rolex-24 at the Daytona Speedway this past weekend, at the opening of Dayton's Speed Weeks. Six undergraduates and four graduate students from UCF worked the race as relief pit crew for the Champion Gunnar Racing team, and their drivers Paul Newman, the oldest driver in the league, Michael Laver, Michael Brockman and the league's youngest racer, and soon to be UCF student, Gunnar Jeanette.

"These select students were chosen because they were students who showed initiative, had been with the SAE program the longest, and were free for the week of course," said UCF Engineering graduate student Richard Grace.

The undergraduates were responsible for changing the car's tires, refueling the car, replacing brakes, cleaning the windshield, changing the oil, signaling the pits and taking turns timing the team's car during laps.

"We spend a lot of time standing around just timing the car, but are ready to get into action at a moments notice," said Grace.

The graduate students had the honor of tracking the team's new \$180,000 Porsche 996-GT3-R. The grad-students, from UCF's Precision Engineering of High Performance Engines, were responsible for monitoring the motor performance and gas consumption of the Porsche through the use of high-tech computer

RACING, Page 7



PHOTO BY SHELLEY WILSON

President Hitt (center) addresses student concerns during the last Senate meeting.

President Hitt gives "State of University"

SHELLEY WILSON
STAFF WRITER

President Hitt gave a "State of the University Address" to the UCF Senate on February 3 in front of over 40 Senators and 50 students in the audience. Hitt seemed glad to speak to Senate and in his opening prepared speech, talked about the last time he spoke in front of the body.

"It's been some years since I've been invited to the UCF Senate. I remember on the last occasion the Senate was still meeting in the old University

dining room. I do appreciate your invitation and hope in the future you will take more opportunities to discuss issues important to you relating to this University."

Hitt first answered prepared questions given to him previously by the Senate Service and Public Relations Chair, Amanda Harkins. The first topic brought up was several students being placed unfairly, according to SG, on summary disciplinary actions. Hitt's response was he believed

HITT, Page 6

Career expo brings companies, opportunities to UCF students

BECKI PANOFF
STAFF WRITER

Looking for a job? Most college graduates or almost grads stress about finding a job after they get their diploma. The Career Expo, held on campus Feb. 1, 2000, was a great opportunity for them to get their resumes out to possible future employers, as well as talk and network.

The Career Resource Center put on the Career Fair in the UCF Arena to give job opportunities to UCF students and alumni. The CRC has been holding this event since the late 70's, but every year the event has grown by leaps and bounds to a record number of attendees reaching 1,630.

This year, the companies made a strong showing, 180 employers taking tables and booths to showcase their companies.

"We usually go to major state school [career fairs] and UCF has a very well organized function," said Jennifer



PHOTO BY JASON KOKOTOFF

UCF students and alumni visit employer booths at the UCF career fair. The career fair set an attendance record of over 1,600 attendees.

Summers, a recruiter from Prudential.

According to Ron Nebgen, Associate Director of the Career Resource Center, there is no criteria for an employee to be invited, usually 4,500 invitations go out to companies that are in a national database.

"These job fairs are worthwhile for the employees. The

cost benefit is cheap for them. They usually get 50 or 60 resumes and they couldn't come close to that by advertising," said Nebgen. "Job fairs [also] level off the playing field for small employees, which really drive Florida and Orlando."

CAREER FAIR, Page 3

Note taking causes campus controversy

BETH SHAW
STAFF WRITER

Many students across the nation use notes taken by a note taking service. Some use them as supplements while others use them to miss class. These students have found that by using these notes they can keep up with their studies and make sure that they are covering the correct material for a course. However, there are some professors who feel as though these notes are robbing their students of actually learning the material. They also feel that note taking services lower attendance in classrooms. Another point is that the material written by the note taker is their interpretation of the lecture and may not be suitable for all students.

There is also the question of the legality of the note taking. Federal law prohibits the use of copyrighted material to be sold

Inside

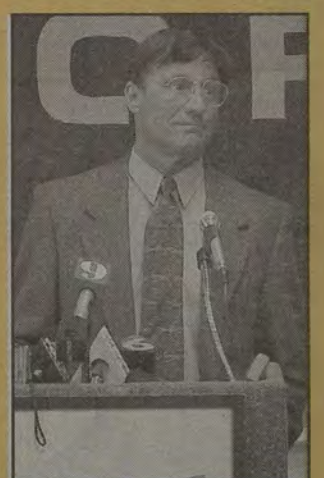


PHOTO BY CFF STAFF

Signing off..

UCF football coach Mike Kruczek discusses the newly signed Golden Knights at last weeks news conference. UCF had its best class ever.

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NOTES, Page 3

Fresh faces, a fresh start

TAYLOR CLARK
STAFF WRITER

In late November, the University of Central Florida Panhellenic Executive Board was replaced. Each year the board, consisting of eight positions changes, allowing different people with fresh outlooks, and new ideas to participate.

Obviously the Panhellenic Council desires members with the most drive, determination and insight. For this reason, prior to membership, the applicants must go through an intricate interviewing process. The sororities are paired off and as each candidate rotates among them, they are asked several in depth questions. From this process, develops the Executive Board.

President, Sara Minikus, feels confident that the new board will be one to "look at the past

and fill the future with something better," not just for Greeks, but for UCF as a whole. Without a doubt, they have their plate full. Their goals begin with internal improvement. The board plans to educate all the delegates, chairs, and the entire Panhellenic community on the National Panhellenic Constitution and bylaws.

"The current constitution is unclear and needs a lot of revision, so that it will mimic the National Constitution," said Minikus. The organization will definitely create a stronger, more efficient organization.

Once the board achieves this goal, it will allow them to focus their energy outward. Of their many goals this year, improving inter-Greek relations as well as those with non-Greeks is extremely important. The board intends to modify the traditional views non-Greeks have of them.

Minikus

said,

"Unfortunately, people here at UCF often have negative misperceptions of the Greek system. We would like to change some of those views by working closely with Laura Jordon, Vice President of personal relations."

In addition to improved relations, expansion is another major goal. Within the year, following formal recruitment, one of two sororities will be added to UCF: Kappa Kappa Gamma or Kappa Alpha Theta. Because it is difficult to colonize two sororities simultaneously, only one new chapter will be established this year. The other will be added in a year or two.

The new Panhellenic Executive Board is one charged with ambition and dedication. With such a positive attitude, some new faces and a fresh outlook, students should expect to see nothing less than equally positive results.

Former Teacher Jane Elliot Speaks on Racism

CHRIS RIEHL
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Anglo class of third graders into groups based on eye color in an effort to teach the issue of discrimination.

"I started the day after Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., killed," Elliot said. "I had no way to explain to all my white children, in my all white, all Christian classroom in Riceville, Iowa, what the death of Martin Luther King Jr., about or what racism was about. They didn't understand racism. They practiced it, but didn't know they were practicing it. I needed a way to let them know about the anger in the black community."

The experiment accomplished its objective and propelled Elliot to the forefront of the crusade against racism. Now she brings her message to Central Florida. Her program begins at 8 p.m. at the Arena. If you would like more information on Elliot or her presentation, please call the Campus Activities Board (CAB) at 823-6471.

Some students have never heard of Jane Elliot, but they would undoubtedly want to hear what she has to say. The former third grade teacher from Iowa has committed herself for over 25 years to leading the fight against prejudice and racism. She has spoken at dozens of universities around the country and has appeared on numerous television programs, including Oprah, Today and The Tonight Show. Her work has also been the subject of three films. Her message is quite simple: racism is not part of human nature - people are taught racism.

On February 15, Elliot will speak at the UCF Arena. This very special and important event is free to UCF students. Her presentation typically incorporates anecdotal stories, volunteers and a video. Elliot is most renowned for her 1968 experiment, in which she separated her all-

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"Somebody's profiting off of our work and as far as I am concerned they might as well be stealing hubcaps"

FROM PAGE 1

for profit. State law prohibits the use of voice taped material to be written down and sold for profit. While professors feel their lectures are copyrighted, note taking services argue that spoken communication cannot be copyrighted.

"Basically they are stealing intellectual property," said UCF professor Dr. M. Timothy OKeefe.

The President of Easy A Incorporated, Irvin Hechavaria, feels that his company is not doing anything illegal. He says that the note takers of Easy A only write down what is said and not what is produced on an overhead slide or handout. They are also told not to tape record a lecture. Unfortunately, Easy A would have no idea if these rules were being followed or not.

"We are not curving the learning process or bypassing the learning process. Students still have to learn the material themselves," said Hechavaria.

Easy A Notes, which is among many of the nations note taking services, covers about 100 courses at UCF. Its employees are paid enough to cover how much they pay to take the course as well as have money left over.

Note takers must prove registry to a course, have at least a 3.5 GPA, and go through an interview process which includes reviewing notes they have taken previously.

"I used the notes because I didnt regularly attend class," said senior Jaime Cooper.

The note packets themselves can range in price from \$6-\$12. Courses covered by Easy A are usually those which have 80 or more students. Easy A provides packets for professors at no charge if they wish to view the material. Hechavaria said that 90 percent of Easy A customers are regular attendees of class who use the notes as supplements. He also said that the notes are usually the same for every class every semester. He feels this proves that professors are not being robbed of their hard work.

"We don't take the test. I feel that professors need to structure their tests better to involve more critical thinking," said Hechavaria.

The question as of now is unanswered. Note taking companies have been around for a while and it appears as though they may be here to stay.

"Somebody's profiting off of our work and as far as I am concerned they might as well be stealing hubcaps," said OKeefe.

"This is a networking event..."

FROM PAGE 1

These career fairs don't only create opportunities for graduating students, of which Nebgen estimates more than 95 percent make up past attendees, but they also help UCF alumni, who are encouraged to come back for the career fair.

"Sometimes these companies like people with experience, with a few years out there," said

Nebgen.

"We have a very good relationship with UCF...we have a lot of alumni working for us," said Amanda Peck, a recruiter from Orlando Sentinel Communications.

The employers value different things coming into the fair. "We are looking for work experience, preferably in finance and sales and marketing," said Jennifer Summers, a recruiter from Prudential.

"We are looking for people who are computer literate, and have good communication skills," said Annette Diaz, from GEICO Direct.

The most important part of these fairs is getting a chance to talk to the employers and finding out what they are looking for.

"This is a networking event, maybe you won't hear back from them for 6 months or a year," said Nebgen.

Other dates for job fairs:

Part-time & Summer Job Fair
March 29, 2000

Education Job Fair
April 11, 2000

Statewide Job Fair
May 11, 2000
University of Central Florida

Fall Career Expo
Sept. 26 & 27, 2000

Graduate, Law & Professional School Recruitment Day

Orientation Team receives applications

JENNIFER MAZZOLI
STAFF WRITER

Orientation Team applications have now been submitted. Along with a resume of high school and college activities, two letters of recommendation and five short answer questions must be submitted by the applicants. The applicants then proceed to two interviews, one individual and one group interview.

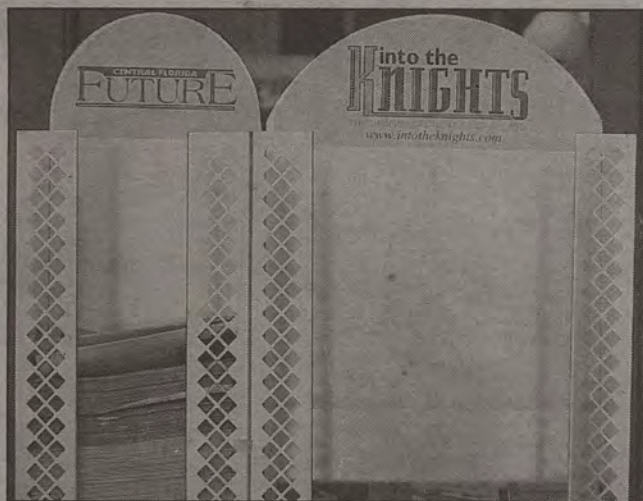
Working with the orientation team, Ingrid Gonzales says that they are looking for students to fill approximately 32 to 36 positions as O-Team leaders. They look for people who are natural-born leaders capable of working in a team. They will be working with a large diverse group of people, so they must be patient and understanding. They should have good work ethics, an outgoing personality and the ability to use

this as a learning experience.

"We know that not everyone is a natural-born leader, but we see this as a learning experience for all students," said Gonzales.

Applicants chosen will attend a training session from May 9 to June 7. Orientation dates are from June 7 to July 31 and then from Aug. 12-16.

Applicants will find out whether they have been chosen on March 2.



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Student Union	Administration Bldg.	Health P/A Bldg.
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Knights Pantry	Engineering Bldg.	Fine Arts Breezeway
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BET comedians showcase humor, talent at "Funny Fridays"

PHOTO BY JASON KOKOTOFF

Tony Schulfeld(below) mc's the event held in the VAB auditorium.

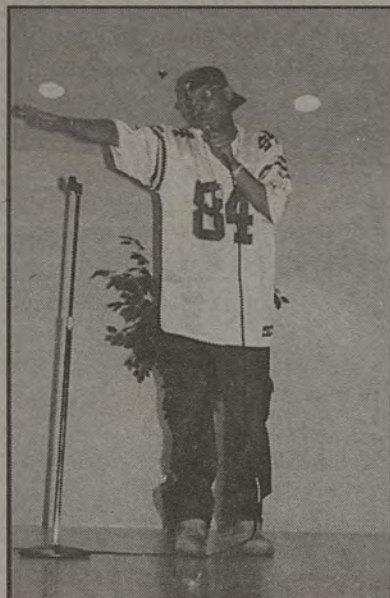


PHOTO BY JASON KOKOTOFF

Comedian Small Frie (right) receives laughs from audience while she was under a bench.



PHOTO BY JASON KOKOTOFF

Kenny Howell (left), examines the audience during his act.



PHOTO BY JASON KOKOTOFF

Reggie McFadden (left), gives the audience a chance to share in the spotlight of a comedian.

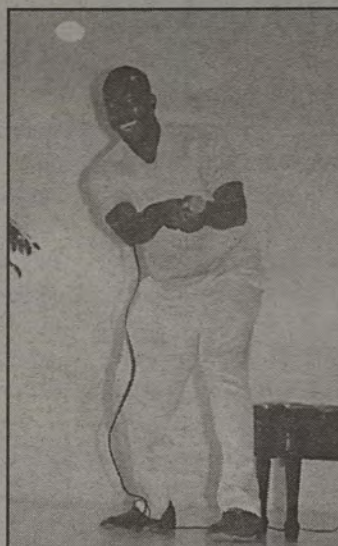
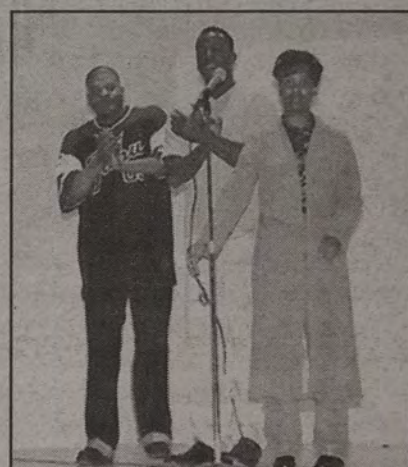


PHOTO BY JASON KOKOTOFF

(from left) Howell, McFadden, and Frie share stage for final act to take a bow for their show.



Student Government is hosting their first annual SG Expo on Valentine's Day from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. in front of the Student Union. There will be fun activities for students to participate in including the "Dunk Tank" to raise money for Relay for Life. SG will also be debuting their new publication "Excalibur." For more information on this event or the publication, contact the SG office at 823-2191.

Valentine Ads

The winners of the Valentines Ads are those labeled with craziest, sweetest, and most creative on the Valentine pages. The winners may pick up their prizes at Locos with valid UCF ID after Friday at 10 a.m.

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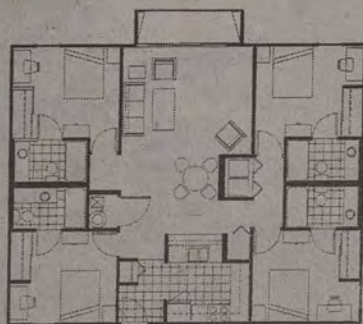
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Black History Month Calendar

February 9th:

Woman Studies Program presents:
"Black Women and Feminism Forum"
11:30 a.m. 221 AB Student Union
And AASU & BFDC present:
Unity Forum #2 "Relationships"
7 p.m. Cape Florida 316 - SU

February 13th:

10:30 a.m. Worship Services at Victorious
Living Fellowship
250 N. Ivey Lane
Orlando, FL 32811

February 15th:

AASU & Committee for Affirmative Action
Present: A Political Seminar
"Where do you stand?"
6:30 p.m. Key West AB - SU

February 16th:

AASU & Alpha Kappa Alpha presents:
Bone Marrow Drive held 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
South Patio - SU
AASU and John T. Washington present:
Brain Bowl held at 6 p.m.
Key West 218 CD - SU

February 19th:

Community Fun Day/Carnival
12 p.m. - 5 p.m. at UCF Rec. Services

February 20th:

10 a.m. Worship Service at Orlando
Institutional Church of God in Christ
401 S. Ivey Lane, Orlando, FL
And AASU, CAB, & SGA present:
NAACP President Mr. Kweisi Mfume
At 7 p.m. at the UCF Arena

February 21st:

AASU and Sigma Gamma Rho Presents:
Movie Knight, "The Wood"
6:30 p.m. in room 218 AB SU

February 23rd:

Black History Musical Drama
"Expectations of Triumph"
7 p.m. VAB Auditorium

February 27th:

Worship Service at 910 West Livingston
Church of God at 10:00 a.m.

February 28th:

AASU & Kappa Alpha Psi present:
2nd Annual Talent Show
Place TBA

February 29th:

Closing Ceremonies 7:30 p.m.
Charlotte Harbor 313 - SU

compiled by Shelley Wilson, staff writer

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idea?**

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SG president shooting for best Student Government in state

FROM PAGE 1

the University acted appropriately in dealings with recent suspensions of several students.

"The University, I think, has complied with applicable and administrative rules. The University has authority to take immediate steps such as disciplinary action when we believe the welfare and best interest of the University and its students warrant this action."

Hitt then cleared up the confusion of why the UCF marquee beside Alafaya Trail did not have a Student Government plaque there since SG thought they had put money towards it. Hitt replied a plaque is appropriate where SG funds projects, but to the best of his knowledge SG did not fund the marquee in any way.

What President Hitt would like to see SG do differently this year was another prepared question for him.

"I don't consider it to be my task to tell you what to do other than to say we would like to see you and where we must, we will insist, that you follow the rules of the University and along with our state. I think we share to differing degrees the task of leading our University into this new millennium and that's not an easy task and I can assure it has its cost. Leadership always does."

President Hitt then shared what he believed to be the common view of the UCF SGA by other faculty, students, administration, the State, and the general public.

"The perception of students that have been in my office is that part of the problem we've had in SG in recent years is that there has been too much money and it has led to the perception of allocating all that money almost anything went. It's hard to understand how 29 clubs in Engineering received over \$260,000 while smaller clubs in Arts & Sciences that has two to three times the enrollment of Engineering received less than half that amount."

Hitt stated that if SG desired to earn and maintain respect on

and off campus they should communicate better with their constituents and stay with their job.

"Each of you has been elected to a seat in Senate to represent a particular constituent and to use your best judgement in allocating funding for the student body. This is a serious responsibility and I know you do not take the responsibility lightly, but I urge you to stay with the task."

"Some of the problems we've had is seeing the number of Senators voting dwindle to the point where important decisions were made by no more than ten or eleven Senators. That's really not democracy and it doesn't represent the students at this University very well. So stay with it."

Hitt then addressed the accountability of the actions taken by SG and the dictation that SG feels they sometimes have by administration.

"Some of you, or at least some in the past, I know take the view that SG answers only to itself and the administration had no rightful role in reviewing its actions. That's not the view taken by the legislation and the Board of Regents. They hold the University Administration and me personally accountable for your actions and so long as they do it's my duty to see that you abide by the rules. I cannot do otherwise."

"I also know there has been discussions that the administration or the President wants to tell you just how to spend your money and tell you just what to do and that's just not true."

Hitt used an example of former SG President, Darin Patton, appeal his impeachment to the administration.

"Some of you know that I think Darin Patton got a raw deal. However, the actions of the Senate were reviewed by the General Counsel and were found to have met the general requirements for due process. I did not feel the administration should or could step into that matter."

Hitt closed his remarks by reminding Senate of the task they ran for to begin with.

"Your challenge and that of SG generally is to work for the greater good of the student body that each of you has been elected to represent. As student leaders it's important to not lose sight of whom you represent. What are their expectations? How will they measure your success?"

In the open question format that immediately followed, Engineering Senator, Larry Davis, defended the funding for Engineering. "The only thing that Engineering clubs have done is taken advantage of funding opportunities and everybody knows that every other club or organization has equal access to these opportunities. So please don't give engineering a bad rep for taking advantage of opportunities that are there for everybody," Davis said.

Arts and Sciences Senator, Chris Riehl, asked Hitt if the format of the UCF Radio Station, WUCF, could be changed to a more friendly college student listening format.

Hitt answered why WUCF went to their format and gave an idea of how UCF can get a station that is more listened to by students.

"Their listenership was so bad with their elective format they had before they were going to lose their NPR funding and I have to say that they have rebuilt a very respectable listenership. What I'd like to see us do is explore with SG getting a new low power license that are available so we keep the investment we have, but then have a low power station so we can have a student orientated station." Harkins who had originally invited Hitt thought the visit went really good and stated her reason for originally inviting him.

"We're trying to move forward and make progress, but we still have questions that remained from the past Senate. It's important these issues were resolved so we avoid conflict and embarrassment in the future," Harkins said.

The Student Body President,

Andy Cupicha, also gave a "State of the Student Government Association" address, which he thinks, is very good.

"I don't believe in dwelling in the past. Let our past be a dead past and let our future be a living future. Wishing for a thousand yesterdays won't create a better tomorrow. Perseverance, hard work, dedication, commitment and friendships help create a better tomorrow. We've made great strides over the past nine months and we've all sacrificed a little of ourselves to help the SG tree grow," Cupicha stated. "For the next three months my sights are still set at winning the best SG. People may laugh at that across the state, but in three months when this term ends we're gonna have done more in one year for the students than any other SG in the state of Florida. So get ready, buckle your bonnets, we're moving."

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FROM PAGE 1

technology both in the pits and on board the car.

During the week leading up to the event, the students practiced a multitude of tasks and drills to make sure they were thoroughly prepared for anything that could happen out on the track. "If anything goes wrong we have to be ready to get it taken care of and fast," said Grace.

The under-grads practiced with the pit-crew from Champion Gunnar Racing in West Palm Beach while the grad-students worked with the car, and tested it on the track. "On average the cars stop every 75 minutes for servicing and changing drivers," says Bob Hoekstra, the head of the Masters program in Precision Engineering for racecar engines. "Everything has to be done in 30 seconds, unless they need a brake job. That takes an extra 30 seconds." This is the reason for their extensive training the students were put through with the Champion Gunnar Racing team.

The UCF team physically dismantled the car and put

it back together from the bottom up, making sure they knew what went where and the size of each and every bolt and nut on the car. This was nothing too out of the ordinary though for the SAE members. Each year SAE builds a car from scratch. "We take pride in building and fabricating

a race car each year," said Grace.

This race is not the first time that UCF Engineering students have worked with the Champion Gunnar Racing Team, and they hope that it won't be their last. The students have been timing the cars at Sebring, West

Palm Beach and Moroso. If all goes as planned for the team, the students will attend races in Atlanta, Homestead, Sebring, Watkins Glenn, and Sears Point, assisting the Champion Gunnar team as well as being subbed out to other teams for even more experience.

"We are part of a big thing here," said Grace. "This is a first for the UCF Engineering department, and we're proud that we could be a part of it."

SAE is hoping to obtain some sponsorship from their participation in this past weekend's event. The organization operates primarily off of sponsorships and this was a great way to get their name out there. "Last year we pulled in approximately \$84,000, right now we are up over \$100,000," said Grace.

Besides gaining sponsors they were treated great by the Champion Gunnar team. Their entire week was paid for, covering such expenses as food, travel, clothing and recreation, on top of being paid for their services as crew-members. "Everyone out here [Gunnar Racing] has treated us great," said Grace.

Not only does the student's participation with Champion Gunnar Racing give the students the opportunity to work in the field they are interested in, it also gives them a chance to get paid for it as well. It puts the spotlight on UCF in the motor sports world.

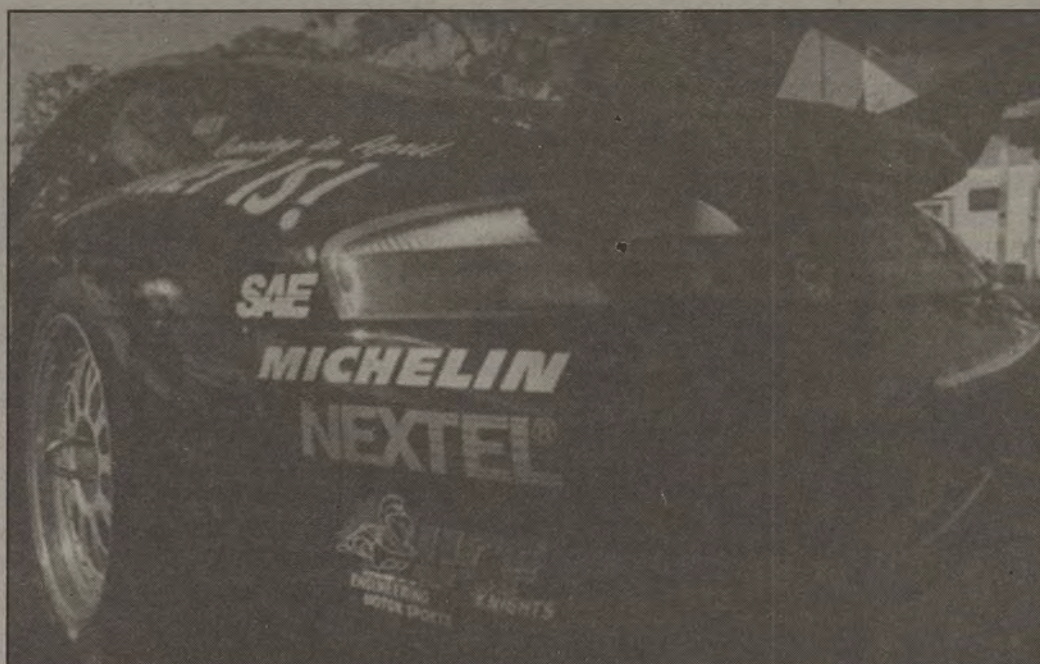


PHOTO BY UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

UCF and Society of Automotive Engineers logo's part of the advertising on the teams Porsche 996.

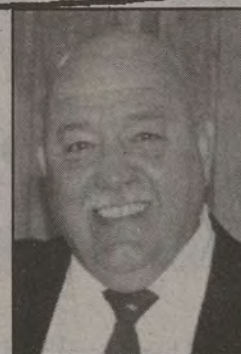
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Magaly,
You're the first thing on my mind when I wake up and the last thing when I go to bed. You're in my dreams and my future. You make me feel like I can accomplish anything. I'll love you forever.
-Jason

*****WinnerMost Creative*****
To: J.W.
I should call more often you're right, it's not fair you've met your quota of that I'm aware. Now it's my turn to venture across the line. So will you please be My Valentine?
From: C.C.

To my BFF Nete,
Happy Valentine's Day!
Seth

Girlfriends,
Happy Valentine's Day!
Love, Boyfriend

To: Candy Fru Fru:
I love you!
Love, - R

*****Winner Sweetest*****

To The Woman of My Life:
On July 31st I did the best thing in my life, marry the woman of my dreams. I know we have up and downs, but everything always works out. Happy Valentine Day, Baby!
From: Eddie Ruiz

To my Gary:
My life began the day I met you. Thank you for making me happy, and of course, for being you. I love you with all of my heart and soul, baby. Happy Valentine's Day.
Love, Becki

Thanks for a great time! I left the money on the dresser. I'll call, I promise!
Love, Minute Man

To my Boo,
I'm glad that you are back in my life!
Happy Valentine's Day!
Love, Carrie

To my family and friends,
Thank you all for your love and support throughout the past year. I love you all. Happy Birthday Brother!
From: Andy Cupicha

To: My little Sisters
Kristen P., Nadine O., Vanessa H., and Kristen H., Love You All. Happy Valentine's Day. Your Big Brother-Freddy Cano

To UCF's most beautiful Attorney General Michelle Fernandez, keep up the great work! Happy Valentine's Day! I love you! From: Freddy Cano

To my valentine Gini:
Thank you for an amazing year (almost) together. You are an awesome girl and I love you.
Dennis

Theresa,
I love you so much and thank God for putting you in my life. You are the best. Thanks for everything. Happy Valentine's Day, Sweetie! 143!
Much Love, Jeff

Rachel,
Congratulations on your favorite holiday. Being with you is pure bliss and I'm really happy we hooked it up like Sir Penguin and Thug Bear at a true-playa party. You're my baby-Uh-Uh, Uh-Uh. Love Ya, Tony

To my HOT Cuban:
Qui'en es tu' papi'!
Good luck on your show, I know you'll do a great job.
Love, Scotty

Mike,
Happy Valentine's Day and thank you for being my best friend and giving us our son. I love you!!
Leigh

To my dearest younger sister Michelle Cano. Congratulations on all of your accomplishments. Happy Valentine's Day!!
Your Brother, Freddy Cano

To: Stacey
For 2 years we have been together. At Christmas I asked you to marry me. You said yes. Now we can spend the rest of our Valentine Day's together!
Love Your Prince, Aaron

Petey,
Wow kid, four years and still going strong-And to think they all doubted us! Remember...who knows where the road will lead us, only a fool would say. But if you let me love you-It's for sure I'm gonna love-All the way!
Love, Missy
P.S. Charlie!

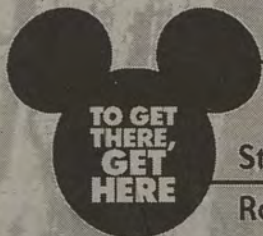
Craig,
I love you and I cherish these past eight months together. I look forward o many more moments with you. Happy Valentine's Day and Anniversary!!
224!! Love Always,
Kim

To my Beloved D-J
I thank you for your honesty, strength, courage, and understanding. I thank you for always being you. Mostly, I thank you for always standing beside me in love. I Love you infinitely.
Your Angel Angie

To: Scott
Thanks for all your hard work and listening to all of us (and to your wife fo putting up with all of our calls). You're a great publisher!
From: Your favorite staff right here at the Future!

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Shane,
Thanks for being in
my life and support-
ing me. I love you!
Angela

Thank you for being
so wonderful to me.
I love you, Pat!
Love Always, Hope

To: Vanessa
Happy Valentine's Day!

Cheryl,
I love you very much!
Jaime

Bianca,
Happy Valentine's Day!!
Leonardo

Jingles,
May this Valentine's be as
exciting as our last and as
will be those to come.
I love you!
From: Your girl toy.

Miss Ashley-
Thank you for being
my valentine for 2
years now- I hope
there are more to
come!
(Love, Sir Remy

Jodi-
Carino, I love you!
Siempre pienso en ti.
From: Marie

To my valentine Dawn,
Happy Valentine's Day!
Can't wait to see what the
future has in store for us!
From: Seth

Dearest Justin:
I'll never be able to tell
you how much I love you,
but I will spend the rest of
my life trying. Happy
Valentine's Day!
Love, Patty

Brent,
I think you are the best!
Happy 5 months! You
mean the world to me.
I'm so happy you're in
life.
Love, Chicken

"Bling, Bling—I am so
happy that we are together
and that cash money is an
army. Our love is 1580%-
Happy Valentine's Day!
Love, Joe M."

To All The Girls
I've loved before!
You have my heart
forever more!
Love, Danny

Ryan,
Happy Valentine's
Day! I love you!
Love Always, Kerri

Winner Craziest
Jen,
When I first met you –
I smelt like dog poop.
And though I was drunk,
You still thought I was
cute.
Alex

To Trashy:
Words cannot express my
gratitude for all you've
done for me! Thanks for
everything! You're one-in-
a-million!
Love Ya! Shelley

Chad Gabriel:
Hey there you smart sexy
man you...You mean so
much to me, baby. I love
you un' tad.
Love, Christopher

Richie,
I just wanted to tell you
that I love you today. Just
like I did yesterday and
will tomorrow.
Love, Amber

Askim,
Seni cok seviyo-
rum.
EMI

Sir Rex:
I'm gonna win! I
love you! Happy
Valentine's!
Miss Ashley

To: Carrie
May our friendship grow
strong and our time be
long... Always remember
I'll be here for you...
From: Joe

Sheila,
Thanks for being my one
and only. I treasure every
experience we've had
together. I love you! - K

To Amanda:
We may not have
boyfriends, but at least
we're not dating Navy
guys or Universal
employees! Stay in touch!
Love, Amanda

To my favorite Sports
Writer,
"You brought a new kind
of love to me." I think I
found a keeper!
XOXO, Bettyboop

To: Coconut
I know we have had prob-
lems in the past, however I
know we can work through
them if you let us. I love
you.
From: Big Dog

Kelly,
My life began when you
said,
"I love you!"
A.F.

Nathan,
Despite our current dis-
tance, I want you to know
that you are always in my
heart. I love you and can't
wait for you to come home.
Happy 1st Valentine's Day.
Jen

To my love Gailyta, I love
you and Happy
Birthday!!!
Love, Kelly Levison

Happy Valentine's Day!!
To: Sarah
All I want is for you to
give me a chance.
Contact me at 209-6720
From: Virginia (the state)

To: Big Dog
Thanks for always trying
to hear me out. Sorry for
the way things has turned
out, but thanks for always
being there! From:
Coconut

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OPINION

Boys vs. Girls: *thoughts on love's meaning*

ADAM SHIVER
STAFF WRITER

Valentine's Day is approaching fast, and love is on the minds of everyone. But what is love really?

Webster's New World Dictionary tells us that love is an affection, fondness or liking for something else, in joy and sorrow, for better or for worse. But what does Webster know anyway? He's long gone, and besides, he didn't have much time for love anyway—He was much too busy collecting words for his silly little book to experience love.

That's what love is; an experience. A huge experience composed of a zillion different things happening all at once most of the time.

Love is that special tingly feeling in the pit of your stomach you get when you are

around that certain someone. The feeling that makes you so nervous you blunder about looking for the right words to tell her you love her without embarrassing yourself.

Love is thinking of someone all the time, whether they are with you or not.

Love is sharing life experiences, and having fun while doing it. It is knowing what someone is going to say before they say it, and knowing what exactly is on their mind at any given time.

Love is knowing someone's likes and dislikes.

It's feeling like that special someone in your life completes you. That without them you would feel lost, possibly empty.

Love is kissing. (Ah, my favorite part of love.)

Love is ALL of this and so much more. It is hard to narrow it down to any one

group of things, and it is impossible to confine it to any one thing. Everyone's take on love is different, but we all feel something, whatever that may be, that signifies to us that we are attracted to someone more than words can describe. There is that certain something that we all get, whether it be that tingle or the feeling that they complete you, that makes us know we are 'in love.'

I certainly can't tell you what your idea of love is, but this is a small glimpse into what mine is. If good old Webster can't do any better than his vague description of love, I know for certain that I can't tell everyone what love should be to them. You have to find out for yourself, and you can't do that unless you try.

ELAINE LEBLANC
STAFF WRITER

Surrounded by the plethora of chocolate-covered hearts and pink teddy bears available in celebration of Valentine's Day, I found myself wondering "What is love?" My first thoughts were of love in the classical sense--that amazing, overwhelming giddiness you feel with just the thought of your significant other. I thought of the complete and utter and simple happiness you can feel. But then as I thought harder, I realized that

love does not always stem from such a traditional source. I love Coke Slurpees. I love playing Dr. Mario. I love talking to zebras. I love my friends.

And I realize that although my Valentine "love" may change from year to year, these things will stay constant. When asked the pressing question, "what is love?" anyone can come up with a cliché. The most important thing is to know what love means for you. So until I find my one true love, I am happy to be passing the days with all my others.

TAYLOR CLARK
STAFF WRITER

Love is an overwhelmingly powerful entity. It never ceases to amaze me. It has the ability to make the darkest days seem bearable, and the coldest nights seem warm. It functions as a shield from all of life's daggers. It offers strength, courage, and joy when you think you have none. It can look fear in the face and laugh. Love is something to be respected, to be embraced and to be cherished.

So, my question becomes: why are people taking it for granted? Why are people refusing to fill each day with the most beautiful thing in this world? It honestly astounds me. So

often we spend more time doing than we do just being. I know there are many of you that are spending more time fighting with your loved ones than you are enjoying them. We spend more time indulging in the drama, forgetting why we truly love one another to begin with, and enjoy. Why?

I ask of you now, open your eyes and cast the drama aside. Fill your moments together with the one real thing in this world: love. Understand that it is always right. Treasure every moment with one another. Remember why you are together. Open your heart and to love's magic and allow it to be your compass each and every day.

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Disney's 'Semi-Charmed Life'



ADAM SHIVER
STAFF WRITER

Well, it seems that Disney is doing it again, causing controversy that is.

I recently visited my friendly neighborhood movie theater to catch a film. We grabbed our snacks and headed to our seats, just in time for previews, one of my favorite parts of visiting the theater. As the previews progressed I noticed a preview for an up and coming full length animated feature from Disney. "A Tigger Movie."

As the preview began my ears suddenly perked up at the sound of one of my favorite bands playing background music for this new Disney children's movie. I immediately began hum-

ming along with the catchy intro to Third Eye Blind's hit single 'Semi-Charmed Life,' only to realize seconds later what song it was I was singing along to.

The song, a hit from the band's first album entitled 'Third Eye Blind,' is heavily based around sex and drugs. In the first verse alone Steven Jenkins, the lead singer, refers to both oral sex and the taking of drugs through the nose. The song later alludes to Crystal Meth., a quite serious drug, and taking it.

While I personally love this band, along with many of my college friends, and this song in particular, I feel this to be way too inappropriate for a children's movie. I am not quite sure what Disney was thinking when they made the decision to include this song in this movie, but I feel they are only hanging themselves by doing so.

Disney has done other things to stir up the media and parents alike in the past. Such things as the penis pictured on the cover art of 'The Little Mermaid,' and the rumored spelling of 'sex' in the clouds in their movie 'The Lion King.'

Does Disney do this on purpose to raise a fuss? It seems to me like they would have learned through previous events, but it also seems they still haven't learned to be careful enough with their children's movies.

S.C. Flag Issue: Give The People What They Want

GRANT SINCLAIR
THE SENTINEL

On the Martin Luther King Holiday, The NAACP staged a protest of the State of South Carolina's choice to fly the Confederate Battle Flag above the capital dome in Columbia. Since January 1, 2000, the NAACP has organized "economic sanctions" against South Carolina, refusing to purchase items made in South Carolina and refusing to spend tourism dollars in that state. Since the first of the year, over 80 groups have cancelled conferences in South Carolina.

Since the early 1960s, the flag has flown from the Capitol dome. Officially, it was raised to honor the centennial of the Confederacy, which coincidentally fell in the middle of the Civil Rights Movement. It has weathered many attempts to remove it, and it is the desire of the majority of residents of South Carolina to keep it flying. According to Kweisi Mfume,

President and CEO of the NAACP, "it represents one of the most reprehensible aspects of American History, not only for the people of African ancestry,

but for people from every background who know and understand the destructive horrors created by slavery."

I am a military history buff. It is a leftover trait from my time in the Army. But I refuse to revel in the history of the Civil War. I have studied it intently in many history classes. That being said, I agree completely with Mfume on slavery being a destructive horror that this country endured for so long. Slavery was an evil practice that is the antithesis of all things for which this country stands.

The Civil War was a horrible time in our history and should be understood and remembered, but never revered. It was a time that this great nation cut its own wrists and attempted to bleed itself dry. That is not something to be proud of, lest we forget those who died for both sides. The Confederate Battle Flag is a symbol of the soldiers who lost their lives fighting for something they believed in. It has since been used by Southern states to promote segregation and by racist groups to promote their agenda of hate. The people of South Carolina claim the flag is there to honor the past of their state. The South Carolina has the right to fly whatever flag its people wish

and honor the past in their own way. That is their right and choice to do so.

It may not be a morally just thing to do, but if that's what the people want, then so be it. South Carolina enjoys the rights afforded to all groups of people, including the NAACP, by the Constitution of the United States. Far be it for anyone who is not a resident of South Carolina to tell them what to do, just like it would not be right to tell the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to change their name because it offends people.

While I personally do not feel the Confederate Battle Flag is a racist symbol per se, it does represent the darkest time in American history. But, it is

their land and their right to fly whatever flag they want to, just like it is the NAACP's right to spend their money elsewhere. That's part of the bargain of living in a free country like the United States. Sometimes people do things that offend other people in this country. It is the freedom to offend people without censure by armchair activists that makes this a great country.

American Culture, Why Are We the Laughing Stock of the World?

KRISTA ZILIZI
STAFF WRITER

The whole world quietly snickers behind America's back at a population of 'uncultured, uneducated and ignorant individuals.'

Newspapers and broadcasts are constantly covered with headlines addressing America's deficient education system, and addressing policies to improve them. Surveys comparing U.S. education with the rest of the world appear, emphasizing America's insufficient passing requirements and education criteria. Perhaps the most damaging allegation of all are the polls that rank American education in the bottom third.

The world laughs even louder at the perceived "lack of cultural awareness" of Americans. The general sentiment of the rest of the world, and even of some Americans as well, is that the American society in general is completely ignorant of any and all culture, excluding their own.

Undoubtedly, America has its flaws, as do the American

people. However, it seems unjustified and rather hypocritical of the rest of the world to criticize a country that has advocated such global unification and developed into the powerhouse of the world.

Perhaps, education is lacking in some of America's schools. But those statistics include many low-income regions that severely distort the general education quality found throughout most of our country. It is very possible to receive a topnotch education in America; direct proof of this is the overwhelming number of foreign students that attend America's high schools and universities each year. And while education standards may be different from those in foreign countries, the fact is the criteria in American schools differ from city to city, school to school. Education in America is often skill and career oriented, influenced by the need and demand for certain skills and careers in particular regions.

The fact that English has become the universal language of the world also begs the question, why would the world adopt

the language of a nation of ignorant, uneducated individuals? Most countries throughout the world emphasize fluency in English because so many careers require knowledge of the English language.

As our nation continues to suffer accusation of "lacking cultural awareness," the United States still continues to allow immigrants into our abundantly populated country. A perfect example of this is the battle to make six year old Elian Gonzales an American citizen, after his mother drowned while fleeing to the United States from Cuba. The U.S. government, schools and churches continue to develop diversity programs, and assistance programs to non-English speaking individuals. America's universities provide students with opportunities to study abroad and major corporations send employees to network with foreign businesses. Preferential treatment is granted to minorities and individuals of ethnic background through policies such as affirmative action and minority-based scholarships.

Moreover, how can a nation

composed of so many different nationalities, lack cultural awareness? Wherever you go in America, it is inevitable that you will find families who maintain customs and traditions that their ancestors brought with them when they first settled in our country. Even in major cities throughout the nation, the presence of Italian cuisine, Irish pubs, Chinatowns and Latin quarters proves America is in fact culturally aware. While these cultural symbols may be somewhat Americanized, its foolish to expect the same authenticity you would find in its native country.

American culture is so global today, it is rare to find a McDonald's-less country or a population unfamiliar with Levi's Jeans. American movies, American celebrities, and American brand names are insanely popular in dozens of foreign countries and successfully sell at sometimes double the price of its cost in the United States. Again, what drives the cultural success of a seemingly ignorant, uneducated nation of people?

I'm not promoting an Empower America rally; it is unnecessary for a country that's so globally affluent. I am neither a radical loyalist nor an anti-patriot. I do not, however, care to be stereotyped as an uneducated and uncultured individual. I, like most Americans, would travel to any foreign country given the opportunity. I do not refuse the fortuity to learn and experience other cultures. It distresses me to think that the countries who charge us with being so uneducated and uncultured, are the very same countries that eagerly accept the relief and aid of the United States when they find themselves impoverished or at war. These are the countries that scoff at our education system, yet allow female infanticide, exploitation, sweat shops, child labor and violate basic human rights.

For those Americans who share the attitude of our foreign adversaries, may I remind you, you are not bound to this country by shackles and chains, and have no obligation to live in a nation inhabited by 'ignorant' individuals.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Quizno's is new stop for subs

SHELLEY WILSON
NEWS EDITOR

I know what you're thinking, 'another sandwich place'. However, trust me when I say Quizno's is not just another sub shop.

When you first walk in Quizno's on Alafaya Trail (adjacent to Dunkin Donuts) there's a relaxing, but yet festive atmosphere that surrounds you. You feel you can bring your fraternity group there or have a small party.

When you first order any of there over fifteen different types of subs, you see it being made right in front of you. What's so special about that you ask? Well, after they make it (with great service by the way) they put the sub through a hot oven so it comes out warm and fresh. Not cold like other subs that has probably been served to you.

Or maybe you're not in the mood for a sub for lunch. Don't fret my man. Quizno's also offers classic big salads such as Sesame Chicken, Italian Antipasto, and Honey Mustard Chicken. Don't worry about where's the beef on these things either. The chicken strips looks like miniature steaks on these salads. I'm getting hungry already, aren't you?

Are you in the mood for a small side order? You can also grab a small bag of chips of your choice or a small salad right in front of you in line to compliment your sub while it's being made. After you have your sub, you can also have one of their five desserts including Apple Cobbler, Chocolate or Carrot Bundt Cake, or the classic cookies.

Leigh Kruczek, wife of UCF

head football coach Mike Kruczek, and me had lunch together at Quizno's last Friday and definitely gave it a four stars. She had the Traditional Signature Sub and I had the Mesquite Chicken with Bacon. Superb, I must say. We ate every bite and loved every one.

Leigh said that of all the subs she's tasted, Quizno's is on the top of her list in terms of quality.

"It's the best sub I've ever had. The freshness of the ingredients and seeing it go through that hot oven definitely separates Quizno's from places that deliver cold sandwiches," Kruczek stated.

Another thing that impressed Kruczek was the substance of the sub that makes the sub stay together.

"It doesn't fall apart. I could eat the sub while driving and control it."

Three gentlemen sitting behind Leigh and me also loved they stopped at Quizno's for their first time.

"It's delicious. The sub was very fresh and it was hot. All with a warmer atmosphere than other sub shops," Roy Trimboli stated.

"It was worth coming in," Trimboli's friend, Rich, stated.

Great food and service is exactly what the Owner of this Quizno's, Chad Maali, likes to hear. Since this location opened on January 4th, it has become the number one store in the state of Florida and Puerto Rico. Maali said part of that is due to the location of where it is.

"We get a lot of regular customers. One customer came in three times in one day. The UCF fraternities and sororities are also big customers. The whole Tri-Delta chapter came in once. There's been a huge response from the



PHOTO BY SHELLEY WILSON

Quizno's Subs is located at Alafaya and University next to Dunkin Donuts and Don Olson Tires.

UCF community which is great," Maali said.

Quizno's is definitely spreading like wildfire, especially in Orlando. Seven stores in Orlando are already opened with five more under construction. There's also over 770 stores nationwide and you can visit their website with a location tracker for these stores (with a

menu included) at www.quiznos.com.

So go check them out. Look for the coupon for a sub, chips, and a drink for only \$3 right here in the Central Florida Future. Not only good food and great service, but also a great deal.



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Chuck Shepherd's NEWS OF THE WEIRD

Lead Stories

— British TV Program Guide: The BBC gave one more try in December to save the 1980s hit program "One Man and His Dog," whose viewership has fallen off; the program consists entirely of shepherds (each with his dog) competing to efficiently herd sheep into pens (although producers jazzed it up by equipping some sheep with microphones to capture their "baa's"). And a Fall 1999 British-made documentary, "Hidden Love: Animal Passions," reported on practitioners in Missouri's "zoophile" community (i.e., humans romantically involved with animals), including an interview with an uncloseted zoophile gushing over his "wife" Pixel, a horse; said one activist, "We are not sick at all. Zoosexuality is (merely) an alternative lifestyle."

— According to London's Daily Telegraph, U.K.-funded research revealed in January indicates that within 10 years, countries could require car manufacturers to install \$300 electronic governors that would use satellite technology to control the maximum speed that cars could travel, varying it depending on amount of traffic, highway design and driving conditions.

Latest Nearly-Ultimate Wisdom

Convicted murderer William "Cody" Neal, at his sentencing hearing in Golden, Colo., in September: "I (accept) responsibility for the (murder). If I lose my life, I can live with that." And an unnamed woman, when police in Appleton, Wis., came in December to remove her children because of a complaint that she had given her 11-year-old daughter a "swirlie" (holding her head in a flushing toilet): "I haven't had a vacation in 13 years. Go ahead and take them."

The Entrepreneurial Spirit

— At a meeting of African leaders in Tripoli in September, Libyan leader Moammar Khadafy unveiled a prototype of the car of the future that he said he had personally engineered in his spare time: the low-slung, five-passenger "Rocket of the Jamahiriya," featuring bottle-shaped front and rear ends to deflect collisions and make it the world's safest car. Libya would produce 50,000 cars a year priced in the "upper-middle-class" range.

— A private company, leasing land rights from the Israeli government, plans to build a \$6.6 million entertainment complex in Capernaum on the Sea of Galilee to include an 80-yard-long platform just below the water's surface to allow visitors to re-create Christ's walk on water (at \$5 a head). However, according to a December Austin American-Statesman report, Roman Catholic priest and Holy Land scholar Jerome Murphy-O'Connor predicted the walkway would be used only by "drunk tourists, not serious pilgrims."

— A September Deutsch Presse-Agentur report profiled Mr. Rainer Thoenes, 33, from the German village of Kalkar, who earns a nice living as a hairdresser for cows being readied for cattle shows. "The trick," said Thoenes, "is to highlight the cow's strong points (straight back, slim legs, plump udders) and hide the weak ones," but Thoenes's professional standards prevent him from supplying artificial parts such as more attractive tails.

— In a December profile, the Village Voice touted the hand-carved potato dildoes of California artist Pommela de Terre, who said spuds are more sensual than carrots or cucumbers, than clay or Play-Doh, or than candles or commercial dildoes. De Terre adds lemon juice to prevent color change and olive oil for flexibility and said she's never had a potato break during use.

Weird Science

— A November Associated Press report on

44, showed him progressing slowly after the April 1998 incident in which a neighbor mistakenly jammed an 8-inch, serrated blade all the way into the top of his skull. Doctors pulled it out without major damage, and Hill now takes pain and seizure medication and still has trouble with emotions and short-term memory. Hill's sister, at whose house Hill was staying when stabbed, believes the attack was intended for her husband.

— A Palm Bay, Fla., engineer renewed his call in September for testing his theory that bombarding developing hurricanes with nuclear weapons would disrupt their circular wind flow and cause them to dissipate, saving lives and curbing property damage. Henry Payne first made the claim in 1997, but a federal weather official said too many bombs would be needed, resulting in serious nuclear fallout even if the bombardment took place far from land.

— Recent Addictions: Daisy Hales pled guilty in Haymarket, South Yorkshire, England, in September to stealing books to feed her habit of eating paper. And researchers told a conference in Los Angeles in October that more men than women suffer from "body dysmorphic disorder"

— people who imagine themselves horribly ugly and deal with it by radical plastic surgery and peculiar disguises. And Canada's National Post reported in October on polydipsia ("self-induced water intoxication"), which causes addicts to guzzle water to the point of getting high (at which point it becomes life-threatening), including some who furtively drink from toilet tanks.

People Who Are Not Like You and Me

Subtenants Stuart and Susan Levy were at last fined \$8,000 in December by a New York appeals court, but not before they had refused to move from their rented Manhattan apartment for 11 years after being given their 30-day notice to vacate by the tenant, who said in March 1985 that she needed to move back in. Because of the Levys' delay tactics, it took seven years for the principal tenant even to get a formal ruling that the Levys had to move. After that, the Levys stalled for four more years by claiming that the principal tenant should pay all of their legal fees for the 11-year battle.

Recurring Themes

Just before hurricane season in 1998, religious broadcaster Pat Robertson told his "700 Club" TV audience that the city of Orlando, Fla., should not have sponsored that year's "Gay Days" festival, that touting homosexuality would cause God to visit hurricanes and tornadoes upon the city. (In fact, 1998's first hurricane hit Robertson's headquarters in Virginia Beach, Va.) In November 1999, the supreme Islamic leader in Afghanistan said that if Americans did not "cease hostility against the Taliban," the United States would suffer earthquakes and storms, and in fact took credit for September's Hurricane Floyd.

Least Competent Criminals

In unrelated incidents, Jesus Gutierrez, 17, was arrested in Springfield, Ore., in October, and Lawrence Eaddy was arrested in Charlotte, N.C., in July, both charged with carjackings rendered unsuccessful because the perpetrators realized too late that they couldn't drive cars with stick shifts. And the man who robbed the First American Bank in Columbia, Tenn., in December managed enough luck to escape; his getaway plans had been set back when he ran out to the stolen car he had left idling, only to discover that he had locked the key inside.

(Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd, P.O. Box 8306, St. Petersburg, Fla. 33738, or Weird@compuserve.com.)



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UCF Students flash back to the Big Era

LISA APPLGATE
STAFF WRITER

While most of the student body here at UCF were still playing on elementary school playgrounds, people with loud clothes and even louder music were dancing the night away at their high school proms.

This past weekend's event, sponsored by Cypress Christian Life, gave everyone a chance to experience this era.

The unusually frigid weather didn't stop people from wearing brightly colored, oddly coordinated outfits to the 80's Prom that started at eight o'clock on Saturday night.

These outfits that would not die were purchased mainly from thrift stores specifically for this occasion. A few of the guests got these clothes from their closets, and the ensembles ranged from peach taffeta gowns to aerobic outfits reminiscent of this period in time.

The theme for this dance was Enchantment Under the Sea with decorations of underwater creatures around every corner.

In the back left corner, couples could get their picture taken normally or as a pirate and mermaid pair behind a wooden cut-out. Another interesting added touch was the "breakdance" floor which was sadly neglected for a large part of the evening. As with most proms,

there were tables to sit at where you could enjoy refreshments while watching your fellow students show you why their dancing careers never took off.

Cypress Christian Life, the group responsible for this fun-filled affair, is an on-campus club affiliated with the United Campus Ministries. With admission being only \$2, fundraising couldn't have been the main objective—and it wasn't.

"Every year we sponsor an outreach event to raise awareness about our organization. We hope that people will take an interest in Cypress and in Jesus Christ," said President Diana Bjorkman.

They accomplished this by giving out little pink cards to fill out if you wanted more information about their cause, church, or founder. These cards were also used to give out door prizes randomly throughout the night.

The atmosphere was upbeat, the clothes were hilarious, and the music was great at this resurrection of an '80s prom.

More importantly than that, they got their message out to a hundred and fifty people who never would have known they existed otherwise.



PHOTO BY JASON KOKOTOFF

UCF students turn back the clock at the '80s Prom in the Student Resource Center Auditorium.



For over 25 years, Jane Elliott, a former teacher from Iowa, has committed herself to leading a fight against prejudice.

The "Blue Eyed/Brown Eyed" exercise pioneered diversity training.

Racism is not part of human nature;
people are taught racism.

Jane Elliott

Feb. 15th, 2000
UCF Arena 8pm
Free to Everyone

Campus Activities Board

Sponsored by CAB



Funded by SGA



Tina Turner Twenty Four Seven

Tina Turner has always been a better performance artist than studio one. Her rendition of CCR's "Proud Mary" is of course a rock 'n roll classic — something she still performs with fire be it on tour or opening for the Superbowl. She has had some great hit singles on her own too, but the thing that has been missing from her career is one great definitive album of original material.

Twenty Four Seven is not this album. Granted, it has one or two potential hits hidden amongst its abundance of duds, but it won't do wonders for Tina's career in the same way Believe did for Cher's. But we're talking two truly different kinds of divas here anyway, so that comparison is rather unfair.

Or is it? It seems that Tina's "people" have been talking music producers with Cher's "people" as of late. That's right — the same team behind

the smash dance hit "Believe" are behind Tina's latest, "When The Heartache Is Over." The two songs don't really sound alike, but it's really the thought that counts. And that soils the single in a way. Still, expect some clubplay if the remixes turn out any good.

The ten other tracks off Twenty Four Seven are pretty hard to distinguish from each other for the most part — they all sound mostly like Natalie Imbruglia knock-offs, complete with building acoustic guitars and driving drums.

And there are quite a few lyrics that divas like Tina should never have put in front of them to sing. "I've never been a winner but I still play the game," she declares in "All The Woman." Excuse me?! That's just as bad as Bette Midler singing, "How I want to deserve you."

Reality check, you millionaire goddesses!

You should know better than this kind of dribble.



Verbena Into The Pink

Making its major label debut with Into the Pink, alternative rock band Verbena's new album bleeds with raw emotion, fusing together the past and the present.

It wasn't much of a surprise to learn that Foo Fighters frontman Dave Grohl (formally Nirvana's drummer) produced this album — there is an undeniable Nirvana grunge quality to it.

The album, released on Capitol Records, features bandmates Scott Bondy (vocals and guitar), Anne Marie Griffin (bass and vocals) and Les Nuby (drums).

On the tracks "John Beverly" and "Big Skies, Black Rainbows," Bondy's heartfelt vocals strike an uncanny resemblance to Kurt Cobain's.

However, any qualms about Verbena's similarities to Nirvana are quickly dismissed, as the rest of the album features a versatile style that is all its own.

The opening track, "Lovely Isn't Love," which features a thematically dark piano ballad, is just one example of Verbena's versatility.

From the punk rock influences of the Sex Pistols to new wave, to grunge, to glam rock, Verbena is following the progression of sound to the

place where it should go — then taking it a step further to a new level.

If you want to check this band out, "Baby Got Shot," in which Griffin tears it up on the bass guitar while singing with Bondy, is one of the best samples of what Verbena has to offer.

The bandmates' history together goes back long before Verbena.

Verbena's origins can be traced back to the early '90s, when Nuby and Bondy, along with former Verbena bassist Daniel Johnston, were still in high school.

That was when the guys came together as the band Shallow. It was just a matter of time before Griffin joined the band, sharing both vocal and guitar duties.

It wasn't long before Nuby left and was temporarily replaced by original Remy Zero drummer Louis Schefano.

It was at this time that the band changed its name to Verbena and released its EP Pilot Park.

Fortunately Nuby did not miss out on the real action, returning to the band and resuming the position of drummer.

The band released Souls for Sale in 1997.

In 1998 Johnston left, and Griffin picked up the bass.

The band, once more a trio, got Grohl's attention — and the rest is history in the making.



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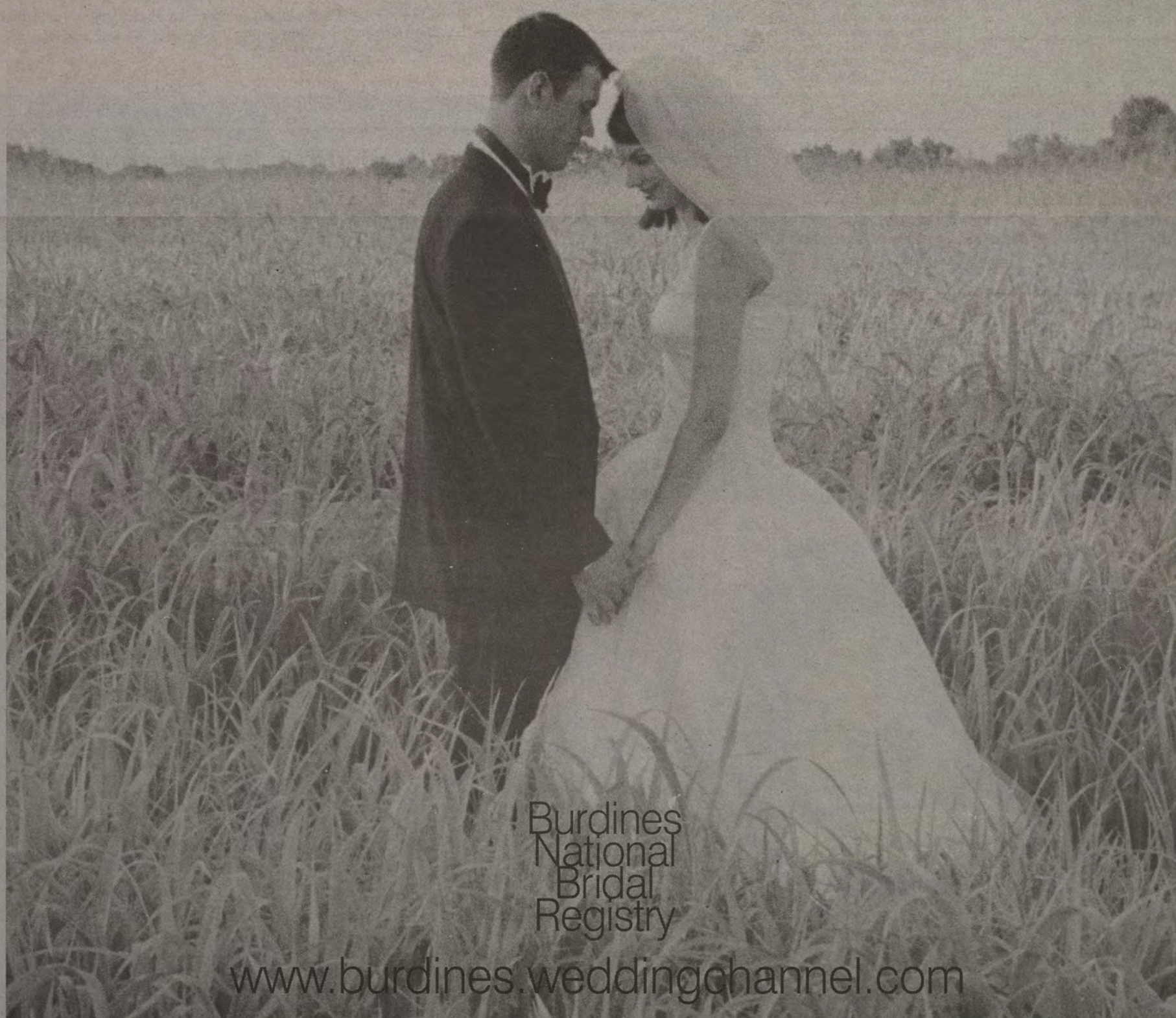
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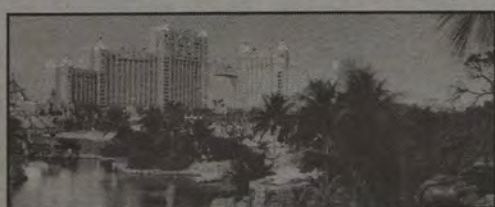
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Defensive class may pay immediate dividends

DAVID MARSTERS
STAFF WRITER

Last year's 33-30 season ending overtime loss to Bowling Green didn't sit too well with UCF head coach Mike Kruczek. In the overtime, the Golden Knights took the lead on a Javier Beourlegui field goal, leaving the defense with the task of keeping Bowling Green out of the end zone. The Falcons put on a clinic in smash mouth football, however, running the ball straight through UCF's defense and into the end zone.

"I don't know that I'll ever get Bowling Green out of my system, and I don't know that I want to," said Kruczek.

That was the final straw in a string of defensive problems for the Golden Knights last year. The Golden Knights ranked among the nation's worst inscoring defense. Granted, they played games against some of the top scoring teams in America, but a lot more had been expected from defensive coordinator Gene Chizik's unit. So it came as no surprise that UCF worked hard to sign quality defensive players during the 2000 recruiting period.

UCF lost a number of defensive players to graduation last year, leaving gaps at some positions that could be filled by incoming recruits. Gone are defensive lineman Justen Moore and Raheem Pontifleet, linebackers Deaubrey Devine, Chris Gunn, and Edwin Ferguson, and cornerback Jeff Fye.

The Golden Knights signed eight defensive players on National Signing Day, and have two others that enrolled here in January.

If there is a star in the class, it has to be 6'0" 230 pound linebacker John Andrews, who was heavily recruited by

Auburn before deciding to come to UCF.

In his career at Douglass High School in Atlanta, GA, Andrews tallied 375 tackles, 13 sacks and two interceptions. He was named to a number of all-state and all-region lists, and will contend for the starting middle linebacker job right away.

"He fits a need," said Kruczek. "We don't have a middle linebacker. We graduated three seniors from that position, so he is immediately competitive for the job."

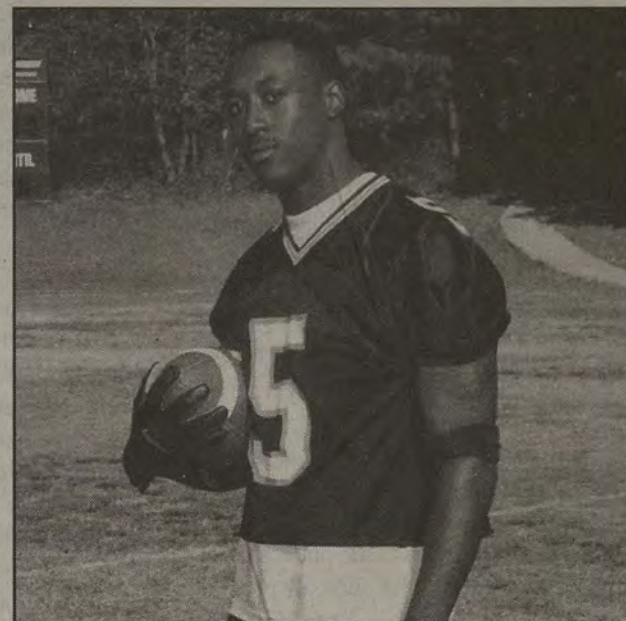
Also coming in at linebacker is 6'0" 215 pound Savarris Brown out of Fort Myers, FL. As a senior, he recorded 139 tackles and seven sacks, and is another player that will contend for a starting job immediately.

"He runs all over the field and we are very fortunate to have him," said Kruczek. "It came down to the wire with us and Oklahoma State."

Antione Poe, a 6'0" 205 pound linebacker that enrolled here in January, was recruited out of high school by Florida, FSU, and Miami before he suffered a knee injury in his senior year. He is now fully recovered and will participate in spring practice.

UCF had a lot of needs along the defensive line, and signed four players to fill them. Among them are Ben Brinson, who is 6'5" 255, Derrick Crawford, listed at 6'5" 270, Freddy Saint Preux, who is 6'5" 265, and the 6'2" 280 Chris Weeks.

"And all of these guys have growth potential," says Kruczek. Weeks, another player who enrolled at UCF in January, can bench press 400 pounds and is expected to make an immediate contribution. Crawford and Saint Preux are both JuCo transfers who can also push for playing time.



Cornerback Keith Whatley was a standout at Atlanta's Douglass HS, gaining all-city and all-region honors. Whatley brings good size and speed to the Golden Knights, choosing to attend UCF over Auburn, Kentucky, and Vanderbilt.

"(Freddy Saint Preux) has great speed and I believe we're going to play him interiorly on the defensive line," said Kruczek.

Brinson, who was named to Bill Buchalter's Dandy Dozen recruiting list, also has the chance to make a big impact, but will have to qualify academically before he can see any action on the field. The Golden Knights did

DEFENSE, Page 20



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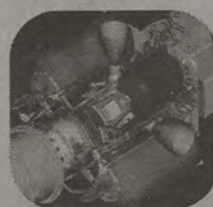
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2000 class dubbed best in school history

FROM PAGE 28

Knights came away with Chris Weeks (6-2, 280), Freddy Saint Preux (6-5, 265), Derrick Crawford (6-5, 270), and Ben Brinson (6-5, 255).

After filling those top priorities, UCF went after top-rated athletes who have the potential to be the next superstar. Quarterbacks Tracy Thorpe and Jon Rivera, running backs Gerard Jackson, Andrean Curry, and Alex Haynes, wide receiver Tavaris Capers, and linebacker John Andrews headline the group that has Kruczek calling this the best recruiting year UCF has ever had.

"We had to step up to the plate and compete against the major football programs in the country," Kruczek said. "Remarkably, we took kids away from those programs."

Rivera (6-3, 185) and Jackson (5-8, 210) had both committed to UCF over a year ago, and they stayed true to their word despite offers from many big name programs. Thorpe (6-4, 240) is the most compelling to coaches because he has similar quality to Culpepper coming out of high school but he will take more time to develop.

Haynes (5-11, 205) is a local product from Evans High School, and he rushed for over 1,400 yards and 15 TDs this year. Curry will enroll at Milford (Ct.) Prep Academy and is expected to enroll in January 2001. Both players along with Jackson give UCF its best group of running backs ever.

"He (Curry) could be possibly the best athlete we got," Kruczek said. Capers lead a group of receivers that doesn't have height, but UCF sacrificed size for speed. Capers is joined by Derek Ponder (6-1,

185), who enrolled in January, James Gerald (5-9, 175), who will likely enroll next January, and Marcus Glover (5-11, 170).

But in the passing scheme for UCF, the tight end has never been a prime target. However, that all changed with the arrival of Michael Gaines, who had signed with Alabama, in January. Gaines (6-3, 265) has size and speed to be a good receiving tight end, and he is an excellent blocker.

"He's a tight end deluxe," Kruczek said. "He's 265 pounds but has the quickness of a 200-pounder."

Headlining the defensive unit is linebacker John Andrews. Andrews (6-0, 230) will challenge right away for the starting middle linebacker spot. Joining him at linebacker are Antoine Poe (6-0, 205), who enrolled in January, and Savarris Brown (6-0, 215).

Rounding out the signees were four

defensive backs, which was another problem on the defensive unit last year. Safety Gerren Bray may compete to play early, while Damian Fagan (6-1, 175), Alphonzo Hopkins (5-11, 170), and Keith Whatley (5-11, 190) rounds out the defensive backfield.

With the best recruiting class following a 4-7 record, UCF ended any concerns that a sub-.500 record would hurt the Golden Knights chances to sign big-name recruits. Now Kruczek looks toward finally getting that first win against a nationally recognized and respected program.

"The 4-7 season did nothing to hurt our image with the athletes in the country," Kruczek said. "The schedule has made us very visible with the great football players in the Southeast. Yes, we have not beaten a great football team perceptively; that will happen."

Defensive recruits help shore up holes at linebacker, secondary

FROM PAGE 19

miss out on some quality players on the defensive line, however. Defensive tackle Ron John Phinn chose South Carolina over UCF at the last minute, and Alfred

Malone chose to go to Georgia Tech after considering UCF.

"That's the only position right now that I felt like we could have done a little better at if one of those two had come here," said Kruczek. "We really felt like we had Ron John, but he turned at the 11th hour."

UCF also signed four players in defensive secondary, an area where the Golden Knights needed some bigger players. None of UCF's starting cornerbacks were over 5'8" last year, a factor that hurt the team against passing offenses and big wide receivers. "We signed four guys in the secondary that I think we need des-

perately," said Kruczek.

Leading the class is 6'1" 175 pound cornerback Damani Fagan, who was also named to Bill Buchalter's Dandy Dozen. "He's a cornerback that can swing at safety," Kruczek said. "He's a very valuable football player."

Gerren Brey, a 6'0" 205 pound safety out of Fort Lauderdale, FL had 10 interceptions as a senior at Stranahan High School and chose UCF over Iowa and Colorado State. Keith Whatley, a 5'11" cornerback out of the same high school as John Andrews, is a speedster who can cover deep threat wide

receivers. Alphonzo Hopkins, another 5'11" cornerback, runs a 4.55 40-yard dash and could be the sleeper of the group.

Overall, Kruczek was happy with the defensive players that decided to become Golden Knights, members of what is already being called the best recruiting class in school history.

"I think we've done some good things over on that side of the football," he said. "We've made great strides here in bringing in the right type of athletes that can bring us to a championship level, hopefully very quickly."

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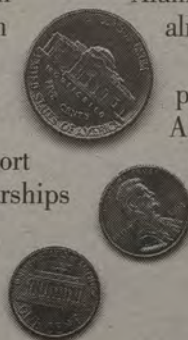
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UCF rushes into future with loaded lineup

TONY MEJIA
SPORTS EDITOR

After four years of Daunte Culpepper, UCF running backs anticipated that they would be used a little more with his departure. Instead, Vic Penn set a school record for single season passing attempts.

A three-headed running back attack didn't fare as well as the Golden Knight coaching staff would have hoped, so they will commit to one guy this season. Thanks to a sterling recruiting class, they'll also have more candidates.

Area standouts Alex Haynes and Gerard Jackson join Edward Mack, Terrance Williams, Omari Howard, and Corey Baker as UCF's tailbacks in a competition that will be anybody's to win.

Haynes, from Orlando's Evans HS, rushed for over 1,400 yards and 15 touchdowns as a senior, earning all-state honors. Haynes, who was also recruited by Missouri, Louisville, Marshall, South Carolina, Kansas State, Purdue, and Miami, was considered one of the top five running backs in Florida, and was named to Super Prep's top 35 running backs in the nation.

"He has speed and acceleration plus a stiff arm which allows him to break tackles," recruiting guru Bill Buchalter said. "He reminds me of a shorter Sammie Smith."

Haynes is also a terrific track athlete, gaining a regional hurdle championship, and being rated one of the top 40 hurdlers in the nation. His athleticism and speed are huge assets.

"He's a tremendous back and brings a level of speed to the table that will be sorely needed," running backs coach

Alan Gooch said. "Now we have Haynes and Corey Baker as speed backs to build around in the future."

The strength part of the equation could be supplied by Jackson, who committed early out of Melbourne's Palm Bay HS despite late pushes by Nebraska and Tennessee as well as Florida State and Auburn.



Tailback Alex Haynes (left) smiles alongside Evans Coach J.B. Gordon and teammate Ben Brinson, a defensive lineman who also chose UCF over major college powers. Haynes will add a combination of speed and power to the Golden Knight running game.

Jackson shared time with Kevin Fein in the Palm Bay backfield last season, leading the Pirates to a 10-0 regular season record, and managed to become the all-time leading rusher in Brevard County history, gaining 5,193 yards in his career.

At 5-foot-8, 210 pounds, Jackson has the power to run over people and at the same time has the speed to run through holes.

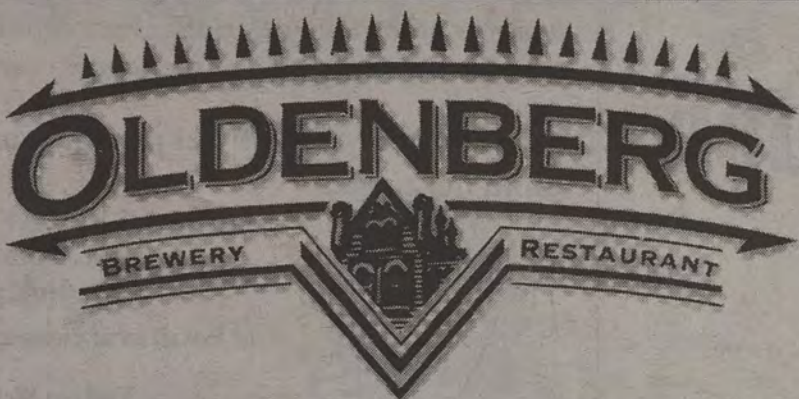
With the talent the Golden Knights have accumulated at running back, they may have a problem keeping everybody happy. However, that only serves as proof that the Golden Knights have landed as a major player in the college football world.

"We've got a stable of backs and it's great that we keep rolling them in and attracting talent," Gooch said. "You can never have too much talent. We now have these tailbacks and are set for the future."

When spring starts, Mack, Williams, and Howard, the incumbents, will have a stiff challenge in keeping out the young guys. Williams and Howard will also be vying to avoid a redshirt season, which is something the coaching staff thinks is a probability due to the number of backs on the roster and the fact that Baker will have to play this season.

"When you look at it, that's what we'll need to do," Gooch said. "It wouldn't be in our best interest to have them rotate in and out. Terrance played injured last season and Omari was coming off injury trouble, so we'll have to evaluate the situation in the spring."

"One thing is certain. It's better to have too much talent than not enough. We know we can't solely move it through the air like we have been, so our running game will be utilized more this year."



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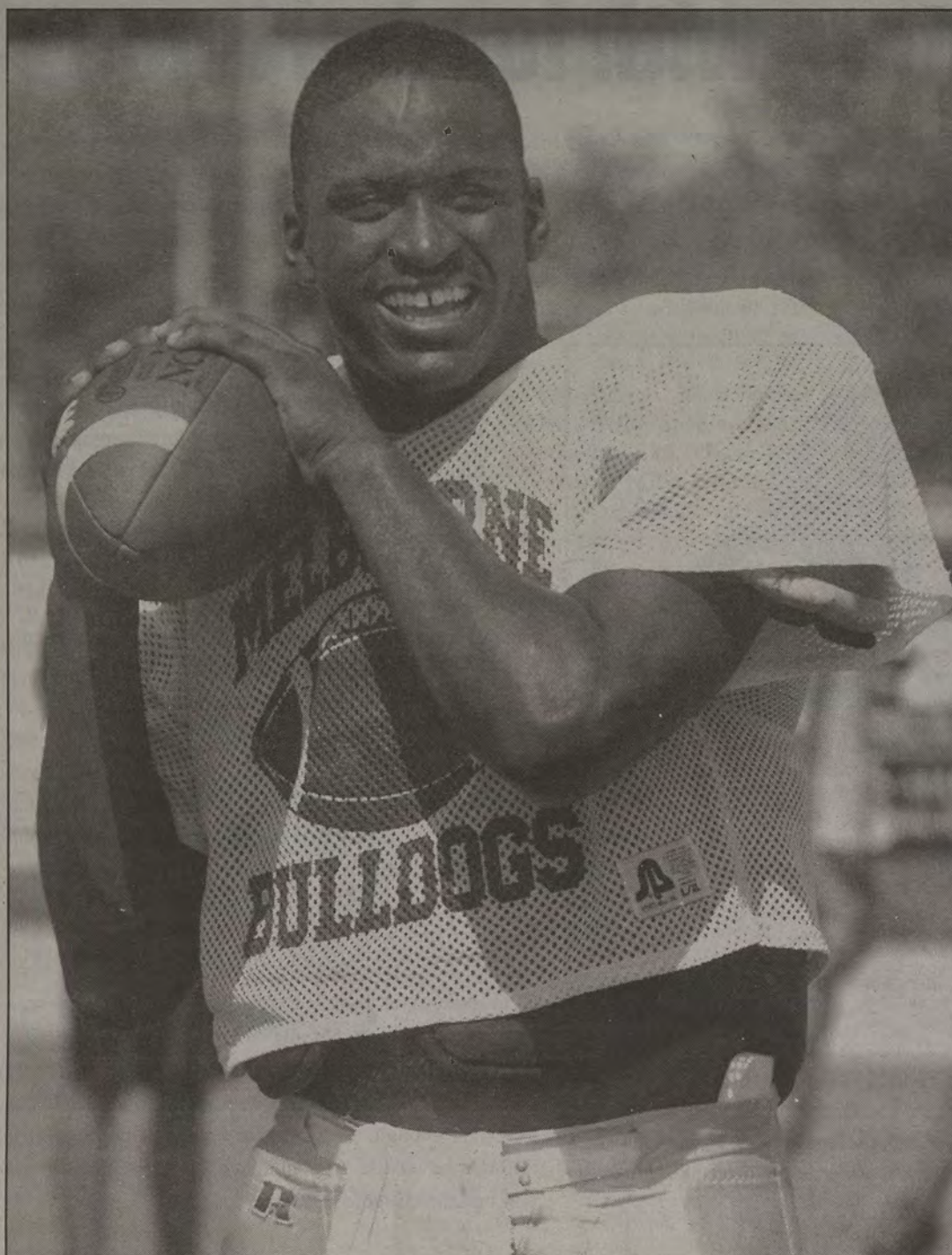
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Comparisons to Daunte Culpepper will follow Tracy Thorpe, who chose UCF over programs like Miami and Kansas State, and will look to mold his raw potential under the tutelage of the Golden Knight coaching staff.

Quarterback combination excites coaching staff

TONY MEJIA
SPORTS EDITOR


With redshirt freshman Brian Miller impatiently waiting in the wings for his chance at the starting job and senior Vic Penn already a proven commodity, the early commitment of Perth Amboy (NJ) star Jon Rivera, one of the top players in the tri-state area, pretty much filled UCF's

quota for talented quarterbacks.

However, when Melbourne quarterback Tracy Thorpe wanted in, the quota suddenly increased by one. After all, as Coach Mike Kruczek put it, you don't turn your back on a talent like that.

And so, the Golden Knights will enter next season with four very talented signal callers taking the snaps. Kruczek has already said that Thorpe

QUARTERBACKS, Page 23



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UCF beats out top schools for pair of talented QB's

FROM PAGE 22

and Rivera will each get a chance to make the travelling roster as the third quarterback, much like Miller did last season. The other will red-shirt.

Thorpe is the wild card. Comparisons to former UCF star Daunte Culpepper have circled around him since his junior season, his first year as Melbourne's starting quarterback. Despite having just two seasons of experience as a quarterback, the raw Thorpe has exhibited tremendous potential.

"I think he's the best quarterback I've ever seen in nearly 30 years of coaching," Mel-Hi Coach Mike Vogt said. "He had to deal with a new offense, but he did just fine with it. It was difficult for him to undergo a change in the offense as a senior but he handled it well."

"He's got a cannon for an arm. An absolute cannon. He's very sound."

Thorpe also was being recruited by Iowa, Kansas State, Miami and Minnesota.

In his two seasons at quarterback, Thorpe passed for 1,960 yards and 21 touchdowns. Last year, he threw for 1,147 yards and 12 TDs and ran for 414 yards and five TDs.

His size (6-foot-4, 240 pounds) is another glaring reminder of Thorpe's similarity to Culpepper. Now that he'll directly be following in his footsteps, he accepts that comparisons will continue, but understands where they are coming from and is comfortable with the expectations.

"It's not as tough to deal with because I do look like him," Thorpe

said. "I like it in a way because I can go in there with some expectations. I know I have to work hard. But, I want to be known as Tracy Thorpe."

Thorpe will have an opportunity to carve his own niche out at UCF, as Kruczek finds himself tremendously excited by the prospect of a Culpepper clone.

"When you think about what he can bring with his speed and arm, Tracy could be very tough to keep out of the lineup," Kruczek said. "He is a remarkable athlete in that if he pans out at quarterback, he gives us an option like very few teams in the nation will have. And if for some reason he washes out as a quarterback, which I don't think will happen, he's the type of athlete who can help us in other areas like defensive end or linebacker."

Rivera is more of a pocket passer with a solid arm and good skills. He committed to the Golden Knights in mid-July after a quarterback camp after which he walked away very impressed. Auburn and Indiana offered him scholarships. Syracuse and Notre Dame expressed interest. He was named to the '99 All-Heisman Team, recognizing the top 20 players in the New York/New Jersey/Connecticut area.

Rivera passed for over 5,000 yards and 48 touchdowns during his career and was named to the Reebok Prep All-Star team, as well as first-team all-state, all-county, all-division, and all-area.

Boasting impressive prep credentials, Rivera will join Thorpe and Miller in a race to be UCF's future at quarterback. In addition, incoming freshman Burt Clark, from Palm Bay, will join walk-on Ryan Schneider as a dark horse in the race. The future appears very bright.

Knights add big bodies to help on off. line

JEFF CASE
STAFF WRITER

UCF's offensive line was punished like never before in the 1999 season. Facing bigger, more physical squads from Purdue, Florida, Georgia Tech, Auburn and Georgia, the anchors to the Golden Knights' offense found themselves being uprooted on an almost weekly basis.

For the future though, it seems the Knights have addressed their needs on the offensive line. In tune with the rest of their 2000 signing class, the Knights' six new offensive linemen are no exception to the class' standard as they seem to be the best group of offensive linemen in school history.

Headlined by 6-foot-8, 382-pound junior college earthmover Patrick Jeanrette, the Knights have a sure future in their new linemen. Jeanrette, who played at Allan Hancock Community College, is expected to slim down to about 340-pounds before suiting up for UCF. Like many of his teammates in this year's class, Jeanrette turned down recruiting offers from better known schools like UCLA and Arizona to play with the Knights.

Joining Jeanrette is Alex Hernandez (6-6, 300, East Los Angeles CC), Norman Lewis (6-3, 270, Port Charlotte High), Travis Muse (6-6, 320, DeSoto County High), Steve Edwards (6-5, 345, West Hills (Calif.) CC) and Tyewan Brown (6-4, 300, Edison High). Only Hernandez and Lewis will likely gain weight before seeing serious minutes as Knights, while UCF's three other linemen seem



Muse

physically prepared to play. UCF coach Mike Kruczek, who will enter his third season as Knights' coach this fall, said his newest group of o-linemen should make life easier for him.

"The evaluation process started way back in September trying to find JC guys that we could get in

Tom DeLuca



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Knights fill holes in offensive line

FROM PAGE 23

here and compete in January and they were very tough to find," Kruczek said. "Two come in here with some physical maturity to help us."

Going into last season, UCF lost stand-out offensive linemen Ryan Gillis, Marcus Jenkins and Cornell Green. The losses to UCF's line made life difficult for the Knights during the year, as they struggled to get the necessary blocking to keep UCF running and passing games a float. In UCF's disappointing 28-10 loss to Auburn, the Knights offensive line was weakened by the fourth quarter from the constant pounding it took from the top-notch Tiger defense. UCF returns a veteran line for next season, including senior center Chris Lorenti, a likely NFL Draft pick next year, bookend senior guards John Beauchamp and Kurt Baumann and sophomore Brian Huff, a key contributor to last season's 4-7 team.

If the new linemen progress into useable pieces of the Knights' offense as planned, UCF should have a group in shape and strong enough to take a Tiger-type pounding. If nothing else, though, Kruczek said he doesn't expect the kind of struggles next season that UCF's o-line had last year.

"When you lose three great linemen from the 1998 season and you lose three experienced kids through having to quit, there's nothing we could have done going into the 99 season," Kruczek said. "We played with guys quite honestly, that weren't ready to play on the football field, but they played their hearts."

"It was evident way back in August for us to be able to play against the teams we had, but at that point there was nothing we could do about that. We knew what we had to do and I think we've done well at filling our need."

Baseball team returns to Tinker Field, their home away from home

TRAVIS BELL
STAFF WRITER

Home field advantage has always been an important aspect in collegiate athletics, and for UCF baseball that has been no different. Last year was an exception when the Golden Knights had to play its home games at Tinker Field in downtown Orlando, and it was the first time since 1994 that UCF lost 10 home games.

With the delay in the construction of Jay Bergman Field on campus, UCF has to continue playing its home games at Tinker Field until the on-campus facility is complete. UCF begins its home schedule this weekend against Western Carolina, but Coach Jay Bergman doesn't feel that the off-campus stadium detracts from the home-field advantage.

"We practiced at Tinker on Saturday and everything went great," Bergman said. "Tinker is so close that I don't think it takes away our advantage."

Heading into the series against WCU, the Golden Knights already have an advantage over the Catamounts — it has won a game this year. WCU opened its season last weekend against Tennessee and came away with a two-game losing streak by a combined score of 18-1.

UCF is still glowing from its 2-1 performance in the ACC/Disney Baseball Blast after victories over Wake Forest and Clemson. Bergman hopes those two wins helped prepare his team for the rest of the season.

But now the Golden Knights have a two-week stretch in which it doesn't play the same level of competition that it faced in the Disney tournament. UCF must avoid a letdown as it heads home for seven of its next eight games.

"This series (against WCU) is extremely important," Bergman said. "This is a challenge to see how we handle these

games against lesser competition. It will be indicative of the season, so we have to jump on them early and bury them."

UCF has faced the Catamounts only one time before in a three-game series in 1996 in Orlando. The Golden Knights won all three games, with one going to extra innings. WCU is predicted to finish fifth in the Southern Conference this year according to Baseball America.

Outfielder Charles Thomas, who hit .406 with three home runs and 41 RBIs last year, leads Coach Todd Raleigh and WCU into Orlando. The Catamounts are a team based around speed and pitching, but hitting and fielding in the two losses against Tennessee hurt them.

WCU managed 12 hits with only one extra base hit in the two-game series, and

they committed five errors that led to eight unearned runs. UCF must take advantage of any mistakes the Catamounts make. "They have a couple good players," Bergman said. "We haven't played them in a few years, so I lost track of them."

So while the Golden Knights play the waiting game for the on-campus stadium, they have to call Tinker Field home again after posting a 21-10 mark there last year. UCF had posted a 98-25 home record during the four-year stretch before leaving campus. Bergman is hopeful that the new stadium will be finished in time for the home series against Louisiana State in early March or soon thereafter. "It (the new stadium) is gonna happen," Bergman said. "We might as well wait."



PHOTO BY JASON KOKOTOFF
Catcher Pete Gavillan will see the majority of action behind the plate, being forced to handle UCF's rotation in addition to adding his productive bat to a potent lineup.

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Perry adjusts to new roles in senior season



PHOTO BY JASON KOKOTOFF

Point guard Cory Perry has been a fixture in the UCF attack for the last four seasons, climbing the all-time lists in both assists and steals.

DAVID MARSTERS

STAFF WRITER

It has been a roller coaster ride of a season for the UCF men's basketball team. Injuries, hot streaks, and cold streaks have all contributed to a mediocre record for a team that is much more talented than it has showed.

Question - what happens when the Golden Knights live up to potential against Florida Atlantic, the TAAC's weakest team? Answer - a 27-point blowout victory that wasn't even that close. And leading UCF to victory in that game was senior point guard Cory Perry, whose season has mirrored the team's.

Perry entered this season as the undisputed floor leader of a team that boasted four seniors. He had developed into one of the best point guards in the TAAC, and was ready to build upon last year's runner-up finish in the conference tournament. He was second in school history with 373 assists, and had an outside shot of breaking the record of 531 held by Sinua Phillips (1990-1994). But his and the team's chances of reaching their goals took a big hit when Perry injured his ankle early in the season and saw limited action, relegating his starting duties to freshman Al Miller.

When Perry was finally healthy, Miller had emerged as a player too good to be kept on the bench. So Perry and Miller have shared time at the point guard position, with Perry playing at the unfamiliar shooting guard spot for much of his time on the court. Despite these changes, however, Perry has found a way to contribute - leading the team in assists and steals.

"When I'm at the two (shooting guard) and Al's at the one (point guard), opposing players are still looking for me to run the show," said Perry.

Perry's ability to adapt should come as no surprise, however, as has made his mark at UCF as being a very versatile player. Along with being a solid passer and defensive stopper, his 3.3 rebounds per game lead all guards on the team, and he can also score when he has to. His numbers against Florida

Atlantic tell the story - 13 points, seven rebounds, five assists, and two steals. The way Perry talks about his abilities, though, one might be regarded them simply as the logical thing to do.

On his rebounding: "I feel if your point guard can get rebounds, then it's easier for a team to have a fast break opportunity," he said.

On his scoring: "I try not to force my shots, and take the open shots when I have them." Another hurdle Perry has had to overcome this season was the loss of fellow senior and friend Mario Lovett to a medical redshirt. Lovett has not played this season because of a nagging foot injury.

"I miss my main partner Mario Lovett, because came in together and we can read what each other is going to do," said Perry.

With six conference games left on the schedule, Perry and the Golden Knights actually still control their own destiny as far as getting a first round bye in the TAAC tournament. At 7-5 in conference, UCF is currently tied for fourth place in the TAAC, and can move up to as high as first place if they win all of their remaining games. Perry, who was a big part of last year's run to the conference title game, knows the importance of getting that first day off.

"I think we can (win the TAAC tournament)," he said. "The way we've been playing, realistically I think it would be impossible to play four games in four nights, though. We don't want that seven through 10 seed, because it's hard to win from there. I definitely think we could do it with three games, because we've been through it once, and I think we're ready for that this year."

Regardless of where UCF finishes this season, Perry will be looked to for his senior leadership the rest of the way. And for his scoring, and his passing, and his rebounding, and his defense, and his well, you get the point.

"I'm just going to try to do whatever I can to make this team do well," he said. "I want to win, it's my last year out, so I'm going to do whatever it takes."

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Men's tennis wins home debut, but loses pair in Tallahassee

DAVID WINDBERG
STAFF WRITER

The University of Central Florida men's tennis team opened up its 2000 Spring season at the UCF Tennis Complex with a 6-1 win over Idaho State on Jan. 30. The Golden Knights posted an early lead by taking two out of three doubles matches for the doubles point, led by William Guerin and Fernando Martinez at No. 2. The pair scored an 8-2 decision over the squad of Idaho State's George Devidze and Malcolm Swan.

In singles UCF appreciated strong performances from its three upper-class men as senior Fernando Martinez clinched the victory with a 3-6, 6-4, 6-4 win at the No. 6 position while juniors Federico

Cashman, who won his first dual match at the helm for UCF.

The Golden Knights returned to action on Feb. 4 against Florida A&M at the Snake Pit Tennis Center in Tallahassee. Despite having three match points to clinch the doubles point, UCF tandem Camacho and Moore lost in a 9-8 decision against Rattler duo Robert Beutelus and Josef Clark at No. 1. The doubles point became crucial when the Rattlers recorded three singles wins to post their first ever dual match win against the Golden Knights. In singles Camacho and Guerin rolled past Jerry Joseph and Isaac Yarrell respectively. The two co-captains improved to 2-0 in singles play on the season. UCF's third win came at No. 6 when Sanabria topped John Richards in three sets. "It was a disappointing loss," Cashman said. "We didn't play up to our potential and didn't compete in two spots. It's a tough loss."

The Golden Knights fell to 1-2 on the season when host Florida State handed UCF another 4-3 decision at the Scott Speicher Stadium. The Golden Knights started out strong winning the doubles point against the 69th ranked Seminoles behind victories from Camacho and Guerin at No. 1 and Westin and David Moore at No. 2. In singles play Florida State, who topped 31st ranked New Mexico in its season opener, wasted no time as Xavier Luscan beat Camacho at No. 1, Chad Mooney topped Martinez at No. 3 and Noah Schnell dispatched Sanabria at No. 5 in straight set victories. Guerin continued his strong play defeating senior Mike Ingham, 6-3, 5-7 and 6-4 at No. 2, and Westin picked up his second win on the season by topping Jeff Scarilla, 6-4 and 6-3. Guerin improved to a combined 6-0 in dual match play.

"Today, we played well. FSU has a good team and they proved that against New Mexico, but we have to continue to work hard," Cashman said. "Guerin had a fantastic weekend with four wins and Camacho is also playing solid tennis. They are really stepping it up so far."

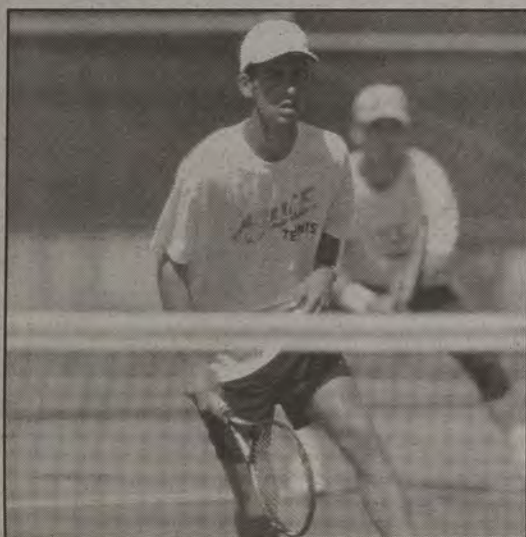


PHOTO BY PAUL CHAPMAN

Frenchman William Guerin will be a big key to UCF's success on the tennis court this season, providing solid play for first-year coach Bobby Cashman.

Camacho and William Guerin posted wins as well. Sophomore Johan Westin (at No. 4) and freshman Augusto Sanabria (at No. 5) also posted strong performances for the Golden Knight cause. Idaho State, ranked 10th in Region VII, scored its lone win when Erkki Torn topped UCF freshman Grayden Moore at No. 4. "Everybody fought well, and I liked the way people came through in tough three sets matches," said head coach Bobby

Loss of Paige hampers UCF's attack

FROM PAGE 28

This week, with the availability of Paige still uncertain, the Golden Knights will have nine healthy players to put on the court in games that are going to very physically taxing.

"We've got to come out 10 times stronger and harder than they are," said Khaliah Guillory, who scored a career high 23 points against JSU. "Coach (Striegler) always says that we start 10 points down when we play on the road, so we have to play well and keep our minds straight."

Against Georgia State, UCF will face a team with similar strengths. The Panthers boast three of the top six rebounders in the conference, and are second only to the Golden Knights in rebounding margin. UCF is ranked in the top 10 nationally in that category. Junior forward Leslie McElrath leads GSU offensively, scoring 19.1 points per game. Campbell brings a very balanced offensive attack, led by forward April Cromartie's 17.2 points and 9.7 rebounds per game. Guard Sarah Moore averages 12.7 points for the Camels, and Janice Washington averages 6.16 assists, second in the conference.

"We don't make many adjustments as far as

guarding post players," said Striegler. "I'll match up my post players with any post players in the conference. We'll make adjustments for different shooters if we think someone is a good three-point shooter, but as far as their post players, it doesn't scare me."

"We've just to go up there and play with confidence. No matter what happens, you have to go in and play your game. If something bad happens you can't get out of what you want to do. The key is that we've got to play hard, give it everything we've got, and execute the game plan."

If UCF is going to win both of those games, they will have to be a better first half team. Last week, the Golden Knights were outscored 72-44 in the first half of their games, forcing them to make a comeback in the second half. They responded in both instances, outscoring Samford and JSU 80-61 in the second half, but that kind of rally is more difficult to pull off on the road. Despite occupying the last place spot in the TAAC right now, UCF is only one game out of sixth place, which is important because the top six teams receive a first round bye in TAAC tournament. If the Golden Knights are to earn that bye, however, they will have to start with two wins this week.

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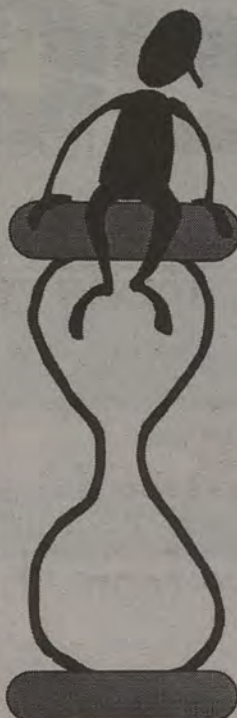
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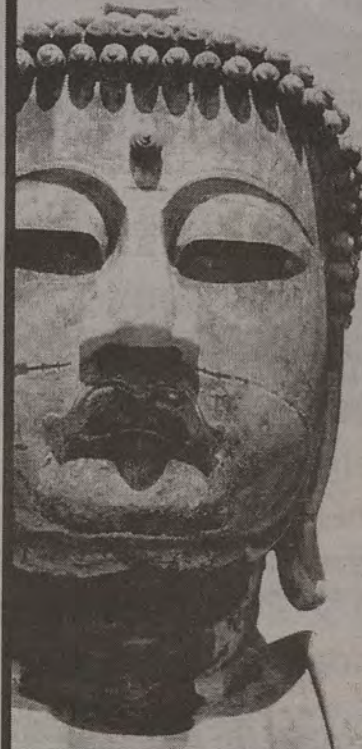
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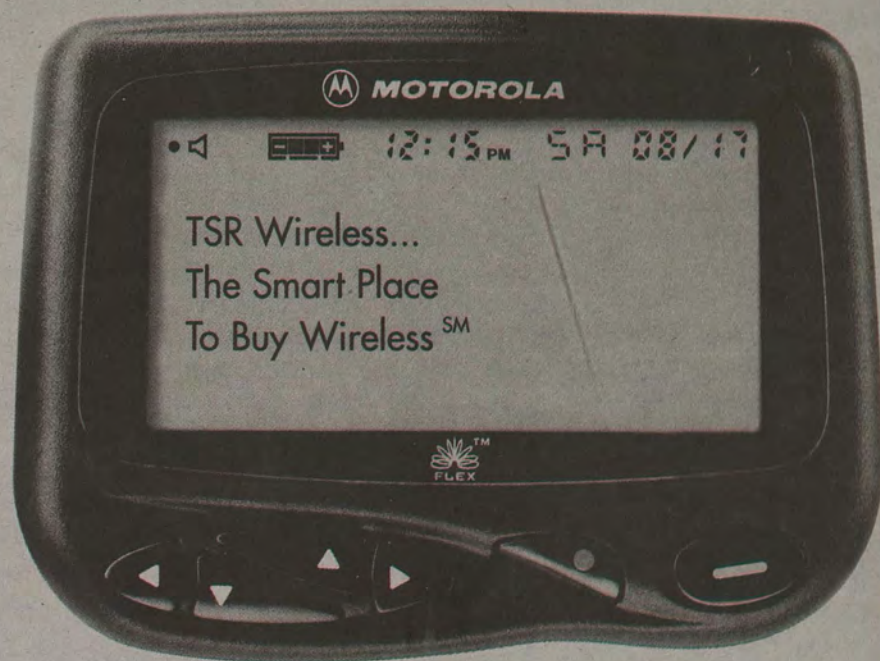
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SPORTS

UCF hauls in gem of a recruiting class

TRAVIS BELL
STAFF WRITER

Coach Mike Kruczek and the rest of the football coaching staff entered the 2000 recruiting season with many needs to fill voids left behind from graduation or lack of depth from last season. He not only filled those needs, but he was rewarded with a lot of wants in the process as well. In all, the Golden Knights signed 27 players, with five of the signees already enrolled at UCF this semester. Seventeen of the signees earned all-state honors.

UCF fans have been waiting for the "next Daunte Culpepper" – a big time recruit who can continue bringing the spotlight to Orlando and to UCF. They may have gotten their wish by way of five or six recruits who have the potential to be as explosive as Culpepper.

"We had some needs we had to satisfy and I felt like by far and away this has been the best recruiting year we've ever had across the board," Kruczek said. "We signed some very, very visible football players in this nation, something we

haven't done ever in our history here."

UCF set out to better itself at every position, but the top priority was the offensive line. The Golden Knights needed size to compete against the top Division I programs, and it received size in a "big way" with junior college transfers Patrick Jenrette (6-8, 380), Steve Edwards (6-5, 345), and Alex Hernandez (6-5, 300).

They will make an immediate impact, but UCF also beefed up on the line for the future signing high school linemen Travis Muse (6-6, 320), Norman Lewis (6-3, 270), and Tyewan Brown (6-4, 300).

"You can see offensively, we've added some size to the interior people which is where we need it which gives up the chance to do the things we need to do to be a little more successful on that side of the football," Kruczek said.

Another major priority was the defensive line, and Kruczek was happy about who UCF signed but was disappointed about losing two top recruits in the final hours before signing day. The Golden

RECRUITS, Page 20



Palm Bay running back Gerard Jackson, Brevard County's all-time leading rusher, turned down Tennessee, Nebraska, and Florida State to stay close to home and help UCF reach its first bowl game.

Men's basketball heads down homestretch with critical road contests

TONY MEJIA
SPORTS EDITOR

In one Saturday of TAAC action, UCF went from seventh place in the conference into a tie for fourth, only one game and a half behind second place Jacksonville State and two and a half games behind first place Troy State.

With the difference between second and seventh place being separated by just one game and a half, the Golden Knights must take advantage of every opportunity to gain conference wins.

The Golden Knights will take on Mercer on Feb. 10, playing the ninth-ranked team in the conference at the Macon Centreplex. Though the Golden Knights trounced the Bears, 93-77, in Orlando, they must be wary of an upset bid, as Mercer enters the game playing its best basketball of the season, coming off an impressive 86-74 win at Stetson. The Hatters entered that game as arguably the hottest team in the conference, having registered blowout victories against UCF and conference-leading Troy State.

However, the Bears surged ahead 40-19 after one half, and held off Stetson to gain their fourth conference win.

Swingman Chris Hill, the Bears top shooter, hit six-of-seven 3-point attempts against the Hatters as Mercer connected on 11-of-15 from beyond the arc in the win.

Perimeter defense becomes the key for UCF in their rematch against the Bears in Macon. In the first meeting, the Knights were able to get off to a big lead before Mercer got their perimeter attack in gear to cut into a 28-point advantage.

Mercer lacks a consistent scoring threat other than freshman center Scott Emerson, who averages over 14 points per game and is a solid performer in the post. However, the team is dangerous when Hill, Rodney Kirtz, Noel West, or Corey McCray get hot from the outside. If two or more of those guys start connecting, the Bears become a difficult challenge.

Two nights later, on Feb. 12, UCF will play at Troy State, which has lost two straight conference contests, but remains

in first place, holding a game and a half lead on Jacksonville State. Troy State fell 103-93 at Jacksonville on Feb. 5, losing despite 45 points and eight assists from junior point guard Detric Golden. Golden leads the TAAC in scoring, averaging over 18 points per game and averages almost six assists a game. The transfer from Memphis is the frontrunner for both Player-of-the-Year and Newcomer-of-the-Year honors.

The Golden Knights and Trojans met last on Dec. 30, with Troy State handing UCF a loss in their first conference game of the season, 74-73 as Golden scored his team's last seven points.

Cory Perry had a chance to win the game for UCF with the shot clock running down, but missed a 3-pointer from the right corner as time expired. The win helped Troy State start off the conference season with eight straight wins, as they amassed a 10-1 record before their recent slump, which UCF hopes to help continue.



PHOTO BY JASON KOKOTOFF
Senior D'Quarius Stewart leads UCF in scoring with over 16 points per game, fifth in the TAAC.

Knights gain third win of TAAC season, but lose Paige

DAVID MARSTERS
STAFF WRITER

Last week was an eventful week one for the UCF women's basketball team.

The Golden Knights ended a four game losing streak with a dramatic 67-65 home victory over Jacksonville State, got starter Nancy Richter back from an ankle injury, and lost starter



Paige

Erin Paige to a hamstring injury. Their mixed fortunes were just another chapter in a season that

has experienced what coach Gail Striegler calls a "merry go round of injuries."

Paige, who had started all but three games this season and was averaging 9.4 points and 6.2 rebounds, pulled a hamstring in practice and did not play in either of UCF's games last week. Without her, they lost 68-57 to Samford, and then got a boost from the return of Richter in the win over JSU, who scored a career high 18 points and came up with a steal on the game's final play to seal the victory.

"Nancy's just such a leader out there," said Striegler. "Everybody looks up to her. Nancy knows how to play the game. Is she the best athlete out there? No. But

she's a smart basketball player, knows where she's supposed to be, and is a good leader. She did some great things for us (against JSU) - hit big shots and came up at the end with some great defense."

Next week, the Golden Knights (6-14, 3-8) travel to Georgia State (16-4, 9-2) and Campbell (12-7, 7-3), the TAAC's second and third place teams respectively. UCF's last game against Campbell was similar to the win against JSU, a 69-64 upset victory that ended a losing streak and gave the team some much-needed momentum. They followed that game up with a 64-54

loss to Georgia State, however, unable to capitalize on their emotional high.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL, Page 26

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► Baseball team back at Tinker Field

► Womens basketball suffers another set back

► Tennis loses tough one in Tallahassee

► Feature on Cory Perry